MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

25 NOVEMBER 1980

American Hostages

Algiers radio reported an Algerian delegation will leave Algiers for Washington on 25 November to deliver the Iranian Government's response to the U.S. reply to the Majlis conditions for the release of the hostages. The radio said the delegation, which delivered the U.S. reply, returned from Tehran on 24 November and briefed the Algerian foreign minister on its mission.

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Palme Peace Mission--UN Special envoy Olof Palme told AFP he is "neither optimistic nor pessimistic" about a quick solution to the Gulf war. In an interview before his departure from Baghdad, Palme said Iran and Iraq are "conscious of the risk of the war spreading" throughout the Gulf and of the danger of intervention by the superpowers. He described his talks with Iraqi leaders as "constructive" and a "success," but he said it is too early to say what points between Iran and Iraq are available for negotiation.

Military Situation--Tehran radio reported that Iranian forces had forced Iraqi troops out of positions on the Abadan-Ahvaz road. Iraqi artillery heavily shelled Susangerd, the radio said, adding that Iraq had reinforced its troops outside the city in preparation for another attempt to seize it. The radio reported artillery duels on the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab, Qasr-e Shirin and Sumar fronts. An Iraqi General Command communique, carried by Baghdad radio's Voice of the Masses, said Iraqi Air Force planes struck Iranian armor concentrations in Gilan-e Gharb. Tehran radio acknowledged the air raid and claimed Iranian antiaircraft fire downed one of the attacking MiG's.

Iraq

According to a KUNA report, Iraqi Foreign Minister Sa'dun Hammadi, in an interview with the Kuwaiti newspaper AL-QABAS, criticized the Soviet Union for not believing in real independence for other countries. KUNA cited Hammadi as saying that the two superpowers do not want an independent world because then neither the United States nor the Soviet will be able to pursue its own interests. The agency also reported Hammadi as saying that Iraqi officials have recently criticized Soviet policies, especially in Afghanistan. KUNA added that "Hammadi's statement is regarded as the strongest criticism in this respect by Iraqi officials."

Pakistan

In an official statement, reported by Karachi radio, Pakistan described as "totally baseless and fabricated" reports that Chinese nuclear missiles are situated on Pakistani territory and that Pakistani and Chinese troops have conducted joint military maneuvers. The statement said Pakistan is "strongly opposed" to the presence of foreign troops or bases in the country and would "never allow" the installation of nuclear weapons. It also denied allegations that tripartite military talks are underway among Pakistan, China and the United States. The radio earlier reported that a Chinese naval delegation led by the commander of the Chinese Navy arrived in Islamabad on 24 November for a 14-day tour of the country.

Inter-Arab Affairs

Arab Summit--Amman radio carried live the opening of the 11th Arab summit conference on 25 November. The radio and PETRA-JNA noted the arrival of a number of delegations including those of Kuwait, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Tunisia, the YAR, the UAE, Morocco and Sudan. The radio reported that Iraqi President Saddam Husayn headed his country's delegation, while Riyadh radio announced the Saudi delegation will be led by Crown Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz.

Syria, the PLO, Algeria and Lebanon have announced they will not participate in the summit, and the PDRY and Libya are also expected not to attend. Damascus radio reported that Syria will not attend the Amman conference "on any level" and noted that Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, in a statement on his return from Algiers, stressed that the viewpoints of the leaders of Syria, Libya and Algeria are "identical on the need to postpone the Arab summit conference." Although an unattributed commentary on the radio spoke of the possibility that Syria and its allies might be represented at the conference by official delegations "much lower than the required level," Khaddam said in reply to a question about the possibility of a "symbolic" Syrian presence that Syria will not "shoulder the responsibility of attending a conference that is proceeding toward the unknown," and he assailed the idea of any conference held "within the framework" of King Husayn's recent statements on the West Bank issue.

The clandestine Voice of Palestine radio announced following a 24 November Executive Committee extraordinary session chaired by Yasir 'Arafat that the PLO declared with "deep regret" that it would not attend the Arab summit conference but would continue efforts to convene an Arab summit based on the unity of "Arab ranks" to reestablish "Arab solidarity." VOP radio had earlier reported a 4-hour meeting between 'Arafat and Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad on 24 November. Citing well-informed Palestinian sources, KUNA reported that 'Arafat had hoped to reach a last-minute compromise formula whereby the summit could have been postponed.

Algiers radio reported that following a 24 November meeting headed by President Chadli Benjedid the Algerian Political Bureau decided not to participate in the forthcoming summit "after acquainting itself with the decisions made by the PLO and Syria." The Political Bureau announced that in the absence of the "confrontation states, particularly the PLO," it would be "impossible" for Arab kings and presidents "to discuss the Palestinian issue or adopt any decision in this regard."

Beirut radio reported that a meeting chaired by Lebanese President Ilyas Sarkis and attended by the prime minister and foreign minister decided Lebanon would not attend the Amman summit conference. The decision followed an earlier meeting, reported by the radio, between president Sarkis and Syrian Chief of Staff Maj Gen Hikmat ash-Shihabi in which the Syrian general delivered a message from President al-Asad concerning the summit conference.

Although monitored Libyan and PDRY media have not yet confirmed Libya and South Yemen will not attend the summit conference, Damascus radio reported the two countries will support the boycott. Tripoli radio carried a statement by the PLO Higher Political Committee in Libya supporting the PLO official position and denouncing the "reactionary axis" of the Arab summit.

Syrian-Jordanian Relations--Damascus radio reported a memorandum from the Secretariat of the Jordanian General Federation of Trade Unions criticizing the Jordanian authorities for passing "unjust sentences" against five workers and seven other "national figures." The sentences were passed on 22 September and included death penalties and long prison terms.

FBIS DAILY REPORT

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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE DECIDES PLO WILL NOT ATTEND SUMMIT

NC241844 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 1745 GMT 24 Nov 80

[Excerpts] This morning the PLO Executive Committee held an extraordinary session under brother commander Abu 'Ammar. The committee reviewed the outcome of the meetings of the seven-member committee and the Arab foreign ministers conference that was held in Amman from 20 to 22 November. The committee also reviewed the outcome of the intensive efforts which were made by the brother chairman of the Executive Committee during his recent tour.

The PLO declares with deep regret that it will not attend the Arab summit conference. Meanwhile, it will continue its efforts to convene an Arab summit in which Arab ranks will be unified and Arab solidarity manifested and in which all the leaders of the Arab League member states will participate. It is a revolution until victory.

Report on Communique

NC241757 Paris AFP in English 1743 GMT 24 Nov 80

[Text] Damascus, 24 Nov (AFP)--The Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) announced today that the organization would not participate in the 11th Arab summit conference that is scheduled to open tomorrow in Amman.

In a communique published at the end of a meeting here late today the committee said that the PLO "would continue its efforts for an Arab summit meeting with the participation of all the kings and chiefs of state with the aim of reestablishing Arab solidarity."

The committee also launched "a sincere appeal for a reconsideration of the summit's date." A meeting now, the committee argued, would only harm the Arab cause, "which is that of Palestine and the future of the Arab and Islamic holy places," which are now under "the Israeli yoke."

The PLO committee also urged the Arab countries "to undertake urgent action in favor of unity of Arab views in the face of the plots of the Zionist imperialists woven by the United States."

Syria and South Yemen have said that they will not participate in the summit meeting because they feared that it would only harm Arab unity. The PLO, which has been heavily supported by Syria, has apparently decided that it could not risk offending one of its staunchest backers.

Abu Mayzar on Working Paper

JN221707 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 22 Nov 80

[Text] PLO official spokesman 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar has said that the Arab foreign ministers conference has approved all items of the working paper submitted by the seven-member ministerial committee concerning the Palestine question.

Abu Mayzar said in a press statement today that the working paper centers on condemnation of the treasonous Camp David alliance and the unsuitablility of UN Security Council Resolution No 242 as a basis for solving the Palestine question and the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Abu Mayzar added that the working paper also condemned the United States for its support for the Zionist enemy and its attitude toward the PLO. Devotion to the idea of Arab solidarity, he said, calls for the exertion of every effort to firmly establish this solidarity on the basis of fighting Zionism and U.S. imperialism.

DELEGATES TO ARAB SUMMIT CONFERENCE ARRIVE

YAR President

JN241444 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 24 Nov 80

[Excerpts] YAR President Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih arrived in Amman. He was received by His Majesty King Husayn and Crown Prince Hasan.

The YAR delegation comprises 'Ali Lutfi ath-Thawr, minister of foreign affairs, and a number of senior officials.

President Salih expressed his happiness over participating in the 11th Arab summit conference, which is taking place under very delicate circumstances which call for more efforts to achieve the aspired for goals and ends.

Tunisian Prime Minister

JN241507 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1430 GMT 24 Nov 80

[Text] Amman, 24 Nov (PETRA)--Tunisian Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali arrived here this afternoon at the head of a delegation to participate in the meetings of the 11th Arab summit conference, scheduled to begin tomorrow.

He was received by Crown Prince Hasan, high-ranking officials, the Arab League secretary general, the Tunisian ambassador in Amman and the head of the escort mission.

Mzali is accompanied by Foreign Minister Hassan Belkhodja, Minister of Planning and Finance Mansour Moualla, Tunisian Ambassador to Jordan Mohamed Jenifane, the Tunisian chief delegate to the Arab League and the Tunisian ambassadors to Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Iraq, Syria and Lebanon.

Moroccan Prime Minister

JN241636 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1600 GMT 24 Nov 80

[Text] Amman, 24 Nov (PETRA)--Moroccan Prime Minister Maata Bouabid arrived here today to lead his country's delegation to the meetings of the 11th Arab summit conference, which will begin tomorrow.

He was received by Prime Minister Mudar Badran, several senior officials, the Arab League secretary general, the Moroccan ambassador in Amman and the head of the escort mission.

The Moroccan delegation is made up of Minister of State in Charge of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation Mohamed Boucetta, King Hassan's adviser Ahmed Bensouda and official in the prime minister's office Ahmed Ziyad.

Kuwaiti Amir

JN241638 Ammah PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1605 GMT 24 Nov 80

[Text] Amman, 24 Nov (PETRA)--Kuwaiti Amir His Highness Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah arrived in Amman this evening at the head of his country's delegation to participate in the meetings of the 11th Arab summit conference.

The Kuwaiti amir was received by His Majesty King Husayn, Crown Prince Hasan, high-ranking officials, the Arab League secretary general, the Kuwaiti ambassador in Amman and the head of the escort mission.

The Kuwaiti delegation comprises Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir as-Sabah, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; 'Abd al-'Aziz Husayn, minister of state for cabinet affairs; 'Abd ar-Rahman Salim al-'Atiqi, minister of finance; and a number of senior officials.

Iraqi President

JN241650 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1648 24 Nov 80

[Text] Amman, 24 Nov (PETRA)--Iraqi President Saddam Husayn arrived here this evening at the head of his country's delegation to participate in the meetings of the 11th Arab summit conference, which begin tomorrow.

He was received by His Majesty King Husayn, Crown Prince Hasan, senior officials, the Arab League secretary general, the Iraqi ambassador in Amman and the head of the escort mission.

Saudi Crown Prince

JN250816 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 25 Nov 80

[Excerpts] His Highness Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, first deputy prime minister and Saudi crown prince, arrived in Amman this morning heading his country's delegation to the 11th Arab summit conference, which will begin today in Amman. The Saudi crown prince was met on arrival by His Majesty King Husayn and Crown Prince Hasan.

The Saudi crown prince is accompanied by a delegation composed of: Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, foreign minister; Shaykh Muhammad Aba al-Khayl, minister of national finance and economy; Shaykh Hamad 'Abd al-Wahhab, chief of royal protocol; Shaykh Nasir ar-Raji'i, chief of the crown prince's office; Shaykh 'Abd ar-Rahman Mansur, Foreign Ministry under secretary for political affairs; Shaykh Jabir Radwan, Saudi representative to the Arab League; Shaykh Ibrahim as-Sultan, Saudi ambassador in Amman and a number of senior officials.

His Majesty King Husayn accompanied Prince Fahd to his place of residence at the Sheraton.

IRAQ'S HAMMADI, SADDAM HUSAYN MEET SUMMIT DELEGATES

UN Representative

JN221036 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1025 GMT 22 Nov 80

[Text] Amman, 22 Nov (INA)--Foreign Minister Dr Sa'dun Hammadi met this morning at Amman airport with Olaf Palme, the special representative of the UN secretary general.

In a statement to the INA team in Amman, Dr Hammadi said that he had been acquainted with the UN envoy's talks with the Iranian officials and with Palme's impression of the situation. Dr Hammadi said that he has explained in detail Iraq's proposals on the main issues in order to facilitate the envoy's task.

Dr Hammadi pointed out that he and the UN envoy reviewed the main topics that could be discussed during the forthcoming meetings in Baghdad. They also discussed matters on organizing the work during the UN envoy's visit to Baghdad.

Syria's Khaddam

JN211905 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1830 GMT 21 Nov 80

[Text] Amman, 21 Nov (INA)--Iraqi Foreign Minister Sa'dun Hammadi has expressed his satisfaction with the results of the Arab foreign ministers' discussions that took place today.

In a statement after the Arab foreign ministers closed session, which ended at 2030 Baghdad time, Hammadi said that the most important thing achieved by the conference was the agreement reached on the economic projects and on documents that had previously been approved by the Arab foreign, economy and finance ministers conference.

He added that these results are considered the beginning of new work in joint Arab relations, because Arab economic affairs are being discussed for the first time at the foreign ministers and summit levels.

Dr Hammadi pointed out that this is the first time the foreign ministers have prepared draft economic documents to be submitted to the summit conference for ratification. He said that these draft documents stress the need to protect joint economic action from the changes that may take place in political relations. This in itself is an important principle, he said. He added that the Iraqi delegation believes that there are points that call for optimism on the economic side, which points out that the Arab situation is not gloomy. The agreements reached today were good, although we hoped to achieve more, he said.

What is more important, he said, is to fix a new trend that stresses the fact that economic matters are not less important than political matters. For years Iraq has called for and worked for this with the brother Arabs.

Hammadi added: I am particularly pleased because this trend of ours has received response and support during the deliberations at the current foreign ministers conference.

Asked about the matters he discussed with Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam during their side meeting this afternoon, Dr Hammadi said: We are meeting with all heads of the delegations participating in the conference. The Syrian minister and I discussed a number of points that would facilitate the conference's task.

On the possible postponement of the 11th Arab summit conference, Dr Hammadi said that subject was discussed during today's session and will be discussed again tomorrow.

Dr Hammadi stressed that the decade of development project submitted by Iraq is on the agenda and that Iraq hopes that it will be unanimously approved by the Arab summit conference.

He strongly criticized the negativism and misunderstanding with which the Iraqi project was previously received, saying: Iraq expected the project to be received with a full welcome, because it is a pan-Arab project in which Iraq has no individual interest. However, there were differences in viewpoints during previous conferences regarding the method of implementation and structure. He stressed that in order for the decade of development project to succeed, it must have Arab unanimity.

Tunisia's Mzali

JN241845 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1830 GMT 24 Nov 80

[Text] Amman, 24 Nov (INA)--President Saddam Husayn received at his place of residence this evening Tunisian Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali. They reviewed the subjects that have been proposed to the Arab summit conference, current Arab issues and bilateral relations.

Jordon's King Husayn

JN241847 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1835 GMT 24 Nov 80

[Text] Amman, 24 Nov (INA)--President Saddam Husayn met at his place of residence this evening with His Majesty King Husayn ibn Talal of Jordan. The two leaders discussed bilateral relations and the developments in the situation on the eastern flank of the Arab homeland. They also reviewed the subjects that have been proposed to the Arab summit conference, which will begin its work tomorrow.

Bahrain's Amir Al Khalifah

JN241930 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1900 GMT 24 Nov 80

[Text] Amman, 24 Nov (INA)--President Saddam Husayn received here tonight Bahraini Amir Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah. During the meeting issues pertaining to the Arab summit conference, which will begin tomorrow, were discussed. Bilateral relations and the current Arab situation were also reviewed.

The meeting was attended by Bahraini Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad Mubarak Al Khalifah; Yusuf ad-Dusari, head of the amir's office; Mahmud al-'Alawi, the Bahraini prime minister's adviser for financial affairs; and Ibrahim 'Abd al-Karim, finance and national economy minister.

YAR's President Salih

JN241947 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1940 GMT 24 Nov 80

[Text] Amman, 24 Nov (INA)--President Saddam Husayn this evening visited YAR President Col 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih at the latter's place of residence. The two leaders discussed issues pertaining to the Arab summit conference, the current Arab situation and bilateral relations.

Qatari Amir Al Thani

JN250819 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0755 GMT 25 Nov 80

[Text] Amman, 25 Nov (INA)--President Saddam Husayn received in his residence here today Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani, the amir of Qatar, and the delegation accompanying him. The discussions during the meeting dealt with developments in the Arab region and several topics on the agenda of the Arab summit conference.

The meeting was attended by Tariq 'Aziz, Revolution Command Council member and deputy prime minister, and Foreign Minister Dr Sa'dun Hammadi.

Kuwait's Amir As-Sabah

JN250835 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0818 GMT 25 Nov 80

[Text] Amman, 25 Nov (INA)--President Saddam Husayn received in his residence today Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah, the amir of Kuwait, and the delegation accompanying him. The discussions at the meeting dealt with topics on the agenda of the Arab summit conference, Arab relations and way to promote them in the interest of the Arab nation were reviewed.

The meeting was attended by Tariq 'Aziz, Revolution Command Council member, and Foreign Minister Dr Sa'dun Hammadi.

Saudi Crown Prince

JN250916 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0905 GMT 25 Nov 80

[Text] Amman, 25 Nov (INA)--President Saddam Husayn received in his residence here this morning Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, Saudi crown prince and head of the Saudi delegation to the Arab summit conference.

The discussion at the meeting dealt with the current situation in the Arab region and topics on the agenda of the Arab summit.

KING HUSAYN MEETS WITH IRAQI, BAHRAINI, KUWAITI LEADERS

JN242214 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 24 Nov 80

[Text] The places of residence of the Arab leaders in Amman were the scenes of intensive activities, represented by the exchange of visits. The meetings centered on the Arab situation, current inter-Arab relations and the topics that will be dealt with by the 11th Arab summit conference, which will begin its work tomorrow morning.

His Majesty King Husayn visited Iraqi President Saddam Husayn, Bahraini Amir His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah and Kuwaiti Amir His Highness Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah. His majesty received at his place of residence His Highness Qatari Amir Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani and Omani Sultan His Majesty Sultan Qabus ibn Sa'id.

ARAB SUMMIT CONFERENCE OPENS IN AMMAN 25 NOV

JN251020 [Editorial Report] Amman Domestic Service in Arabic at 0921 GMT on 25 November begins a live broadcast of the opening of the 11th Arab summit conference which is being held at the royal cultural center in Amman.

The conference officially begins at 0929 GMT with a speech by Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi. In his speech Klibi speaks about the significance of the conference and says that, through solidarity, the Arabs can achieve a great deal in comprehensive economic development and confronting the Israeli enemy.

Regarding the Palestine question, Klibi says that the Camp David framework has failed to achieve a settlement and notes that U.S. allies in Europe and elsewhere are not pleased with Washington's unlimited support for Israel. Klibi urges more Arab political moves to gain world support for the Arab cause.

Speaking about inter-Arab relations, Klibi says: "We still firmly believe that what unites us is deeper than what divides us, as substantiated by the unanimity reached on the draft on economic strategy and the draft of the unified political action program submitted to you for consideration and approval. While we are very sorry about the absence of several members of the Arab League from this conference, we are consoled by that the fact that they have all fully cooperated in preparing these two drafts. We are confident that they will participate in implementing them."

Klibi then briefly discusses the two drafts.

At 0948 GMT Jordan's King Husayn begins his speech which points to the challenge posed by Israel's occupation of Arab territory and annexation of Jerusalem and stresses that intrinsic Arab strength is the only way to Arab salvation.

Speaking about differences within the Arab world, the king says:

"Perhaps, we agree here in this meeting on the principle of quickly tackling the issue as soon as it begins. Any two disputing Arab governments must know that their dispute, regardless of its nature and seriousness, must not predominate so as to affect the entire Arab nation. This is because in the final analysis, it will affect Arab solidarity and the course of common Arab action. To achieve this, we must ban the news media from touching on these differences so that we can contain them and confine the whole issue to calm inter-governmental contacts, prior to settling it."

King Husayn discusses the objectives of common Arab action, listing them as follows:

1. Backing the steadfastness of the Palestinian Arab people in the occupied territory.

2. Achieving a balance of power with Israel.

3. Working for comprehensive economic development of the Arab countries in accordance with an Arab national charter.

4. Carrying out a dialogue with all international quarters.

KUWAIT

LEFTIST MAGAZINE SUSPENDED FOR 2 WEEKS

LD241008 Kuwait, KUNA in Arabic 0854 GMT 24 Nov 80

[Text] Kuwait, 24 November--It was announced here today that the leftist Kuwaiti weekly magazine AT-TALI'AH has been suspended for 2 weeks by a government order for publishing comments considered harmful to Kuwait's relations with other Arab countries.

The order was issued by Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Information Shaykh Jabir al-'Ali, who has the legal right to suspend any publication that carries comments harmful to Kuwait's security or its relations with other Arab countries.

AT-TALI'AH published articles in its last issue criticizing Saudi Arabia for inviting U.S. reconnaissance aircraft and for what it described as assassination of antigovernment elements in northern Yemen.

SAUDI ARABIA

CABINET DISCUSSES SUMMIT, CROWN PRINCE TO ATTEND

GF241855 Riyadh Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 24 Nov 80

[Excerpt] King Khalid ibn'Abd al-'Aziz presided over a Cabinet meeting at the royal court in Al-Khubar today.

At the beginning of the session, the Cabinet discussed the Arab summit conference which, God willing, will be held in Amman tomorrow. The Cabinet heard his majesty the king's instructions to Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, crown prince and deputy prime minister and the leader of the Saudi delegation to the conference. His majesty said: Please assure our brothers at the conference that, God willing, we are always in favor of an Arab consensus and we shall do all we can to unite the nation.

His majesty said: Today our responsibility is greater than at any time in the past to work sincerely and truly so as to cast aside our differences and replace them with sincere, objective and constructive dialogue advancing our nation's interests.

His majesty stressed the importance of collective Arab action and shunning of individual action. His majesty said: Solidarity is the best way to achieve the aims of all of us.

The Cabinet then heard a report from Foreign Minister Sa'ud al-Faysal on the results of the seven-member committee of the foreign ministers conference held in Amman to prepare for the Arab summit conference. Prince Sa'ud arrived a few minutes after the Cabinet meeting began.

FOREIGN MINISTER VIEWS SIGNIFICANCE OF ARAB SUMMIT

LD250846 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0618 GMT 25 Nov 80

[Text] Riyadh, 25 Nov (SPA)--Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal has stressed that the 11th Arab summit conference will be one of the most important in view of the circumstances in which it is being held. In a statement to AL-JAZIRAH, published today, he said that what joint Arab action lacked was planning and integrated study. However, in light of what we have seen and the studies prepared for this conference, we expect it to achieve great success, especially because of the importance of the topics it will debate.

He explained that these topics are considered among the most important in the history of the Arab nation whether in the political, economic or military spheres. The foreign minister expressed the hope that the resolutions of this conference will be a starting point for joint Arab action. He stressed that they will be considered a basic and important step in the initial stage to realize political and economic Arab integration and as a cause for optimism in the drawing of an overall strategic plan for Arab action to fulfill the aspirations of the Arab nation.

AR-RIYADH LAUDS SUMMIT, VIEWS ARAB SOLIDARITY ISSUE

LD241012 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0700 GMT 24 Nov 80

[Excerpts] Riyadh, 24 Nov (SPA)--The Saudi papers today affirm that the convocation of the Arab summit conference in Amman tomorrow clearly indicates that the Arab nation has, by its will, succeeded in crossing the many obstacles that were placed in the way of Arab solidarity, of which we are in dire need in the present time.

The newspaper AR-RIYADH writes that the Tunis and Baghdad summit conferences concentrated on achieving at least a minimum degree of solidarity, as the Arabs were then dealing with the Camp David blow and were trying to salvage whatever they could of Arab solidarity.

The moderate Arab states, it adds, then played their role and succeeded in eliminating the effects of the then new aggression, thereby paving the way for a new Arab solidarity that would preserve the majority role and the policy of maintaining at least a minimum degree of mutual understanding as a working paper suitable for future conferences. Those who left the Arab ranks did so with no return, the paper adds.

The paper points out that there were attempts to strike at Arab solidarity by trying to win some Arabs over by well-known means, and this posed a threat to the policy of maintaining at least a minimum degree of Arab mutual understanding.

But, the paper adds, it is no longer acceptable or desired to seek this minimum degree policy again at the Amman summit. What is wanted from this summit, it adds, is to settle once and for all the question of minimum and maximum degrees.

The Arab majority will decide the new Arab strategy and lay down the basis for a new Arab solidarity to succeed all the past shaky solidarities, the paper adds.

It also affirms that the settlement required should also cover the question of cheaper trading, which has become a cover for the infiltration of many of the castastrophies hitting the Arab and Islamic worlds.

It is essential that the policy of the minimum degree should be abandoned and never discussed again now that it has proven its almost complete impotence in the face of the causes of destiny and has been exploited by man to carry out a policy of bargaining, blackmail and spreading anarchy throughout the Arab homeland.

YAMANI DISCUSSES BALI OPEC CONFERENCE AGENDA

LD241719 Riyadh AR-RIYAD in Arabic 17 Nov 80 p 1

[Tal'at Wafa reports: "Bali Conference Will Not Discuss Iraqi-Iranian Crisis; No Substitute for Dollar"]

[Text] Minister of Petroleum and Mineral Affairs Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani has told AR-RIYAD that he does not think that the current Iraqi-Iranian crisis will be discussed at the coming OPEC oil ministers conference in Bali. Oil prices will be among matters to be discussed, he added.

Asked about press reports that there is an idea to change the pricing of oil from the U.S. dollar to a special OPEC currency, his excellency said he did not think that this subject would be discussed at Bali conference.

OFFICIAL DENIES REPORTS OF BANNING FOREIGNERS

LD211206 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1130 GMT 21 Nov 80

[Text] Riyadh, 21 Nov (SPA)--An official source at the Ministry of the Interior has refuted news agency reports that Saudi Arabia has banned foreigners from entering the country. The source was stated that there is absolutely no truth in this report and that the Saudi authorities have not issued any such instructions on this matter. The source told SPA in the course of his explanation of this matter that it is quite normal for airlines to be bound by regulations and refrain from carrying non-Saudi citizens who have no official entry visas for Saudi Arabia.

UAE

PRESIDENT AL NUHAYYAN ADDRESSES NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

NC221325 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0920 GMT 22 Nov 80

[Excerpts] Abu Dhabi, 22 Nov (GNA)--UAE President His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan today opened the third ordinary session of the fourth legislative chapter of the UAE Federal National Assembly.

His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan expressed in a speech, delivered on his behalf by Health Minister Hamad 'Abd ar-Rahman al-Madfah, the hope that the forthcoming Arab summit conference will succeed in confronting the challenges and in making resolutions that will serve the Arab nation's interests.

Moreover, he expressed the hope that a formula will be found for ironing out the current differences, for bridging the gap and for tackling the questions of destiny that are facing the Arab nation at this current delicate stage.

His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan affirmed his country's stance, which is based on supporting the Arab and Muslim interests and questions and on strengthening cooperation among all states and peoples on the basis of the principles of the UN Charter.

He said: "The achievement of peace in the Middle East depends on the withdrawal of the Israeli forces from all the occupied Arab territories, the liberation of Jerusalem and the restoration of the Palestinian people's legitimate rights and their return to their homeland."

His highness expressed the hope that the international efforts and good offices being exerted by the Islamic states organization, the nonaligned group and the United Nations will succeed in ending the Iraqi-Iranian war.

In his speech, the UAE president said that his country has eagerly exerted all possible efforts to restore Arab solidarity and to repudiate Arab differences in order to achieve Arab solidarity and unity.

He said that the UAE Government is eager to strengthen its cooperation and coordination with OAPEC and OPEC in order to establish a rational oil policy that will serve the legitimate interests of the oil-producing states. At the same time, the UAE is eager to meet the world's oil needs and to guarantee the world's economic stability.

OPPOSITION REPORTEDLY PLANNING TO STORM LONDON EMBASSY

NC241400 Beirut AL-BYARAQ in Arabic 21 Nov 80 pp 1, 7

["Exclusive" to AL-BAYRAQ]

[Excerpt] UAE--The UAE Foreign Ministry has instructed its embassies abroad to hold huge and lavish celebrations on the reelection anniversary of Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, which will occur on 3 December. Diplomatic reports indicate that these instructions are part of a policy designed to black out news of the agitation taking place in the UAE against the practices of some officials.

It was learned that the UAE Embassy in London has asked UK security departments to post a heavy guard around the embassy following information that a group staying in England that is opposed to Shaykh Zayid's regime is planning to storm the embassy on 3 December to stop the reception and perhaps stage a sit-in inside the embassy until some demands are met. These demands include the release of scores of political prisoners and the granting of civil liberties, foremost of which are freedom of press and of party activity.

According to reliable information, internal opposition in the UAE has been unified, and efforts to unity the opposition abroad have also made great strides. An announcement on unifying the opposition at home and abroad will be made in the middle of next month. The main points of the manifesto establishing the unified opposition front are:

1. Overthrowing the present regime and establishing a democratic and popular regime.

2. Controlling national wealth and using it in the interest of the citizens.

3. Introducing a new constitution for the UAE.

4. Using all kinds of struggle to recover the three islands of Greater Tunb, Lesser Tunb, and Abu Musa.

BRIEFS

BAHRAINI AMBASSADORS--Manama, 17 Nov (QNA)--The Amir of Bahrain, His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah, today issued a decree appointing Ibrahim 'Ali Ibrahim as Bahraini ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Saudi Arabia. The GULF NEWS AGENCY has reported that His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah today issued a decree appointing Shaykh 'Abd ar-Rahman ibn Faris Al Khalifah as Bahraini ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the UK. [Text] [Doha QNA in Arabic 1405 GMT 17 Nov 80 NC]

FINNISH AMBASSADOR--His Highness the amir, Shaykh Khalifah ibn Hamad Al Thani, received at his office today Finnish Ambassador Kai Helmer Helenius, who came to bid him farewell on the termination of his mission in Qatar. [Doha Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 23 Nov 80 GF]

SAUDI CONTRIBUTION TO SIDON--Saudi Arabia has contributed 1 million Lebanese pounds to Sidon municipality in southern Lebanon. The Saudi charge d'affaires in Lebanon said that the contribution is partly in the form of cars that will arrive shortly. [Riyadh Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 21 Nov 80 GF]

AS-SADAT REPORTEDLY ASKS TO ATTEND ARAB SUMMIT

LD251000 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0721 GMT 25 Nov 80

[Excerpt] Kuwait, 25 Nov (KUNA)--Today's AR-RA'Y AL-'AM says that President Anwar as-Sadat of Egypt, whose country was expelled from the Arab fold for signing a peace treaty with Israel, has proposed that he attend the Arab summit which opens in Amman today.

Quoting unidentified diplomatic sources, the paper, in a report from Amman, says that Jordan, which received the proposal, shows preparedness to receive President as-Sadat provided that the Arab leaders first decide on his taking part in the conference. The paper does not give any other details.

PRESIDENT URGES EUROPE TO ASSUME ROLE IN MIDEAST

NC220726 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0644 GMT 22 Nov 80

[Text] Cairo, 22 Nov (MENA)--President Anwar as-Sadat has requested the European states to assume a positive role in the Iraqi-Iranian war saying that there were many solutions. In a comprehensive talk addressed to the European peoples, which Danish television will broadcast this Monday, his excellency expresses his readiness to give facilities to these states, similar to those he will give to the United States.

In his talk, which OCTOBER magazine will publish this Sunday, President as-Sadat emphasizes that he supports nobody [Iraq or Iran] and is against nobody because both are Muslim states. He also emphasizes that he does not want the extermination of the two states nor does he want the destruction of the Western civilization on which he depends to rebuild Egypt. His excellency goes on: It does not frighten me that the Knesset should issue a decision annexing the Golan as it annexed Jerusalem. These are important issues. After the tripartite aggression against Egypt, the Israeli Knesset announced the annexation of Sinai. What happened then?

President as-Sadat declines to comment on the statements made by U.S. President-elect Ronald Reagan saying: I do not build my political analysis on any [statements] which could be considered as part of the election campaign. He adds: I must meet the man so that I may know him and he may know me.

DER SPIEGEL INTERVIEWS AS-SADAT ON MIDEAST ISSUES

NC222250 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2154 GMT 22 Nov 80

[Text] Hamburg, 22 Nov (DPA)--President Anwar as-Sadat has said that he is ready to help any Arab state which asks for help. However, he made an exception of Iraq as long as it continues to be an aggressor.

In an interview with the Hamburg-based DER SPIEGEL magazine, carried by DPA from a prerelease, As-Sadat said: "I am not on the side of aggression."

He added: Whereas it is a fact that Iraq is an Arab state, it is also a fact that Iran is an Islamic state. Egypt is the leader of the Islamic and the Arab states. Therefore, everything falls within the scope of our responsibilities.

Pointing to the Iraqi-Iranian war, As-Sadat said: It is imperative for the world to try to contain this conflict to these two states and to prevent this war from becoming a reason for the closure of the Hormuz Strait, which would signify the collapse of Western civilization.

President as-Sadat added that Egypt and its associates in the Gulf have common interests. By this, As-Sadat means that he wants to build his country, whereas they want to sell their oil and they also want to build their states.

As-Sadat noted that he has vested interests in Western civilization. He said that if the Saudi Arabian oil supplies are endangered, "and this could perhaps be done by dropping one or two bombs from one plane on the oil pipeline there," then he would be prepared to help the West.

As-Sadat also put on record his readiness to allow the United States to have additional facilities in Egypt. This way, the United States would be able to reach Saudi Arabia and the oil states which would need, or would desire, U.S. aid.

To a question about his viewpoint on the motives which prompted Iraqi President Saddam Husayn to attack Iran President as-Sadat answered that Saddam Husayn has two ideas in this respect. When Ayatollah Khomeyni fragmented the Iranian Army, Saddam Husayn believed that the time had come to recover the land which he was impelled to hand to Iran in the era of the late Shah Reza Pahlavi. The second matter represented by Saddam Husayn's desire to become the self-styled master of the Gulf and the leader of the whole Middle East area as well as the unrivaled policeman and leader who will succeed the shah and Egypt. The Egyptian president said that upon studying the strategy of the Iraqi offensive against Iran, he determined that this planning [as received] is 100 percent wrong.

The president explained that Saddam Husayn believed that the Iranian Army will never stand on its feet again after all Khomeyni has done to it. Saddam Husayn also believed that it was possible for him to turn the war in his favor within a week, which would result in Khomeyni's overthrow. President as-Sadat said he believes that it is possible for this war to degenerate into a war of attrition. Anyway, such a development could cause a vendetta between the two states which could last for several centuries to come.

When reference was made to the treaty of friendship and cooperation which was recently ratified between Syria and the Soviet Union, President as-Sadat said that President Hafiz al-Asad was compelled to sign the treaty because his life was in danger. President as-Sadat added: When it became clear to President al-Asad that the matter was one of life and death for him, his brother and his 'Alawite sect, he turned to the Soviet Union and signed the treaty. President as-Sadat stated that he does not believe that the treaty between Damascus and Moscow will enable Al-Asad to remain in power. The reason is that Al-Asad once admitted to President as-Sadat that only 2 percent of his subjects support him.

AS-SADAT, CANADA'S TRUDEAU HOLD PRESS CONFERENCE

NC221343 Cairo MENA in English 1225 GMT 22 Nov 80

[Text] Cairo, 22 Nov (MENA)--President Anwar as-Sadat received at his residence in Al-Jizah this morning Canadian Prime Minister Pierre-Elliott Trudeau, who is currently visiting Egypt.

State Minister for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali and Canadian ambassador here Robert Elliot attended the meeting.

Following the end of the As-Sadat-Trudeau meeting that lasted for about ninety minutes, during which Senegalese President Leopold Senghor attended part, President as-Sadat and Premier Trudeau gave a press conference.

The conference began with a statement by President as-Sadat, in which he said the following: "It has been a very happy occasion for me to receive a friend, Premier Trudeau here. He was so kind to include Egypt in his visit and accept my invitation. We had a very fruitful exchange of viewpoints and I gave him my assessment of the situation. He told me about his visit--he has been in Saudi Arabia--and I think we are one the same way. I am deeply grateful for our friend, Premier Trudeau, to visit with us here and for the understanding he always shown.

I have been in contact with him by telephone while I was in the United States. He was kind enough to invite me also, and I shall seize the opportunity to visit Canada because I want him to convey to the Canadian people and to the Canadian public opinion our gratitude for the understanding of the actions and the peace process momentum that is needed. I told Premier Trudeau also that he has, and Canada has, a very important role to play. We have discussed this. And let me tell you this, I am very happy and satisfied with this very short visit, and let me hope that in the future I shall be visiting with him there and exchanging views for a much longer time. Thank you very much.

Question: What do you think Canada's role should be, Mr President?

As-Sadat: I have discussed this with Mr Trudeau and I am not in a position to say anything now.

Question: Would you like to see the Canadian prime minister involved in this?

As-Sadat: Yes, yes and I told Prime Minister Trudeau about this, about my view.

Question: In what respect should the Canadian role be greater sir?

As-Sadat: He is a common friend to Israel and to us. This is very important in this precise moment.

Question: Mr President, is there any special message that has been conveyed to you by Mr Trudeau from the Saudi officials?

As-Sadat: No.

The Canadian prime minister then said: I would like to indicate that I am very grateful, Mr President, that you have accepted to receive me at such a short notice. You have been invited to Canada. You will always be welcome. We have had discussions before by telephone, but I was very pleased that you accepted to receive me and to discuss in detail the past, present, then the future, of the Camp David accords. We have always supported you in the Camp David process.

From the very first we thought that you have made a very brave and courageous gesture for peace when you went to Israel, and we have attempted in a modest way to support your efforts.

I am sure that the Canadian Government and Canadian people will continue to wish you well in the pursuit of peace in the Middle East and the pursuit of discussion between yourself and the government of Israel. In bilateral matters I am happy we have no problems between ourselves. I was glad also to raise with you, and particularly with your Minister Ghali, during the past days the role that we must attempt to play in looking for more justice between the North and the South, between the developed and the less developed countries. So thank you very much for the hospitality. I hope you will come inshallah [God willing].

In answer to a question the Canadian premier said: I think that President as-Sadat stated that we are friends with Israel and that we intend to remain friends of Israel and we are friends with Egypt and I stated yesterday and the day before that we do not have any magic solutions. We do not have any nuclear or economic might, but we think that understanding is important. We think that Canada can by speaking its mind as it has done at the United Nations and our direct relations with Arab nations and with Israel, exercise some modest influence in bringing the sides closer together.

Question: Is there any idea about when the president will be visiting Canada?

Trudeau: He said that he would not be able to consider such a visit before the spring, but after that he will look for a date and he is welcomed at any time.

Question: Did you discuss with President Senghor the Dakar meeting and what level will join it?

Trudeau: We have discussed matters pertaining to the Dakar meeting. And as regards President Senghor's stand, the question should be addressed to him. As regards our stand, it is very clear regarding the foreign ministers' meeting. Canada is the only sovereign state that has a loud voice outside. The central government has the right to express Canada's viewpoint on international issues but as it happens in other meetings, we pointed out that we are ready to [word indistinct] a flexible formula. The Canadian delegation will comprise Canadian francophone elements, particularly from Quebec and New Brunswick which have a large number of francophones.

Question: Mr Premier, have you discussed the effect of Mr Reagan's election on the Middle East with President as-Sadat?

Trudeau: We discussed it. I have stated before and so did my minister of external affairs that we will have good relations with the new administration. We have much good relations with the U.S. Government whether it would be Democratic or Republican, and I had experience with presidents of both parties and I am confident that we will have good relations with the Reagan administration. But the role he will play in the international forum I do not know. It will depend a great deal as [words indistinct] decisions taken in the next few months and on the advisors he chooses in those particular areas. I told President as-Sadat that I imagine that the new administration would not want to use at least the geography and normal feature of the Camp David but that I was rather convinced that they would want to build on the ground which has been laid in the past by Premier Begin and President as-Sadat. They, I did not think, [as received] would want to proceed at least at this stage in a multi national forum by they want to try to continue the process which has been begun bilaterally between the Israeli Government and the Egyptian Government with the United States as helper.

Question: Mr Premier, could the exercising of the Canadian modest influence in the Middle East situation be merely speaking out of minds on the normal course of events or it would be something more formal than the regular process?

Trudeau: No, I am afraid that it would be something more in line that the first, of your question we have offices, it is not a matter of modesty but that we can not have a great influence. [sentence as received] But I am sure that Israel is sensitive as they have told us before to the position the Canadian Government takes in speaking its mind either in private with Israel or in public at the United Nations or the Canadian Parliament. And this I have said several times before, that in this stage the country of the mightiest military forces are sometimes incapable because of expensive costs to influence the course of events and it can be the role of other nations to use their influence through ideas and so in (?persuasion).

Question: Have you discussed any early elections in Israel and its effect on the peace process?

Trudeau: Well, I think everyone who is in politics always speculates about what can happen as a result of new elections, and I guess the answer is, yes, we think there must be an election held in Israel before the end of 1981, and I guess it is a part of everyone's strategy to say if it is the Labour government what shall we do, and if it is Mr Begin's what shall we do also.

AD-DIN DELIVERS GOVERNMENT STATEMENT 22 NOV

NC221525 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1007 GMT 22 Nov 80

[Government statement delivered by Deputy Prime Minister Dr Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din at the People's Assembly on 22 November--live]

[Excerpts] In the name of God and thanks be to God. Speaker of the People's Assembly and members of the esteemed assembly: I had the honor of speaking to you when I delivered the government's statement on 14 June. I then explained the government's policy, its program and method of action.

In the statements we submitted to your esteemed assembly and to the general congress of the National Democratic Party, we always considered and still consider the constructive dialogue with the opposition as one of our principle aims. We still emphasize that the counter argument is no less important than the original opinion and that hearing the various trends which seek the national interests is one of the basic pillars of democracy.

If we are to refer to the stages of implementation and define the accomplishments that have been achieved and the efforts that have been exerted, then, at the same time, we stress in our statement today that the principles are one and that the policies are firm and have not changed. The principles and aims which we previously defined in the various economic, price, inflation curbing, food security guarantees, infrastructure, public utilities and the administration development continue to be the policies and principles which will govern our actions in the next stage.

Another issue which has received the attention of all citizens on the basis that it relates to one of the major national projects is the Qattarah Depression project. This depression covers a wide area of Egypt's territory. When completed, this will be the first project in the world to depend on hydro energy and solar energy in generating electricity. Its benefit is that it would provide 50 billion kilowatts per hour of electric power during the first 10 years.

The government believes that one of the main problems which deserves every attention and care is the problem of administration in Egypt. Although the government has already made several attempts which led to some success, these attempts did not achieve the complete success desired. Undoubtedly, a modern, sophisticated administration can achieve double benefits through the present available means. Therefore, the government will take care of developing the administrative training programs to cover the largest number of those employed by the state, the public sector and private sector. On this basis, the government will prepare a plan to develop the administrative development institute into As-Sadat's academy for higher administration.

There has been another important event since we last met. At the beginning of the 15th Hegira century, the president proclaimed the birth of the League of the Islamic and Arab Peoples to invite the peoples of the Islamic and Arab world to establish close relations and direct their efforts to the welfare of all the Arab and Islamic countries, safeguard their future, and realize their hopes and solidarity in a manner that would turn them into a real effective force in the international arena.

Mr Speaker and members of the esteemed assembly: Following the review of these events, I will not speak about the economic and financial policy which the government pursued to achieve social prosperity through the expansion of the production base and increasing production to ease the burdens of the classes with limited income. The state is committed to providing economic security for the people. This requires guaranteeing an acceptable standard of living which will safeguard a dignified life for the people and provide essential goods and services commensurate with their income.

Despite the burdens which the state assumed to raise the standard of living, particularly of those with fixed and limited incomes, the general budget for 1980-81 has achieved a current surplus estimated at approximately 218 million pounds. The ordinary revenues of the general budget during the first 3 months of the 1981 fiscal year amounted to approximately 806 million pounds compared to 608 million pounds during the same period last year. This is an increase of 198 million pounds, or 33 percent. The government is working to consolidate the rules of controlling the general expenditure.

Regarding the economic policies, the government is resorting to all means to increase the local savings and increase the state's share of foreign currency. It also plans to increase the contribution of the national and joint banking apparatuses to the new projects, particularly the existing and future food security projects.

The government has adopted some important decisions which had a clear effect on increasing the liquidity with the banks. They include ministerial decision No 165 for the year 1980, stiplulating the conditions on (?channeling) the foreign currency accrued through export operations carried out by the public sector or the private sector units. One of the results of this decision was that the banks have had at times a liquid cash estimated at about 1.2 billion pounds.

The government is working through various channels to provide the foreign currency necessary to implement the development plan and its investment requirements. The currency budget revenues during the period from June to September 1980 amounted to about 1.315 billion pounds as compared to 818 million pounds during the same period last year. This is an increase of 60.8 percent. The currency budget during the first 3 months of the fiscal year 1980-81 has achieved a current surplus amounting to about 180 million pounds.

The government is adopting all measures to develop our goods exports. It has encourages the efforts of the private sector in this field and allowed it to compete with the commercial public sector and the production public sector.

Undoubtedly, the world's conviction of the seriousness and usefulness of the peace policy, which is led by the faithful president, has given a great push to the open-door economic policy represented in the projects which were approved by the investment authority. A total of 1,249 projects were approved by 31 October 1980. The total capital of these projects is about 3.348 million Egyptian pounds and their investment cost about 7.007 million pounds. These projects will provide 183,000 jobs with annual wages estimated at 218 million pounds.

Mr Speaker and members of the esteemed assembly, whereas the revenues from tourism have their short-term effects, the government's policy aims at increasing the averages of tourism to Egypt to reach 2 million tourists in 1982, rising to 4 million by the end of 1985. The government's policy in this regard is based on increasing the building of hotels in the governorates and on exploiting the available potentials in Sinai, the Red Sea and the northern coast. Income from tourism is expected to increase again to reach its previous average of $550 million in 1980 rising to about $1 billion in the middle of the eighties.

Mr Speaker and members of the esteemed People's Assembly, the production sector has a great responsibility toward achieving the aim of comprehensive development. Therefore, the government will intensify the petroleum exploration operations to increase the reserves of crude oil and natural gas. As for natural gas, there is a persistent need to discover great reserves to provide part of the petroleum materials used in industry and in the generation of electricity.

Therefore, the government is currently developing the bases on which the petroleum exploration agreements are based to encourage the companies concerned to discover more reserves of natural gas. The government is seeking to increase the average of petroleum and natural gas production to reach a total of 32 million [as heard] tons during 1981. The net revenues are expected to reach to $2.15 billion during the fiscal year 1980-81 against $1.66 billion in 1975.

The government considers the generation of electricity from nuclear power as inevitable. All political and financial obstacles must be overcome to begin immediately the implementation of the first Egyptian nuclear station for the generation of electricity as a start to the implementation of the national nuclear program to decrease reliance on petroleum in this field and so as to exploit it in other fields more useful to the national economy.

Mr Speaker: The industry sector implemented 10 new industrial projects in the various governorates of the republic in the past short period. These projects have actually been implemented and put into operation. The total investment cost of these projects amounted to 300 million pounds. They yield an annual production valued at 218.6 million pounds. They employ 5,345 workers whose annual wages amount 5.15 million pounds. The 1980-81 production plan of the public industrial sector aims at giving a strong push to this sector so that the value of the targetted production may reach 3.434 million pounds at current prices against 2.744 million pounds in 1979.

The war production sector is one of the main production sectors in the state. It is a specialized industrial sector which meets the armed forces' needs for weapons, ammunition, military equipment and spare parts. It is an industrially integrated sector and will include the catalyst [al-wasitah] specialized chemical and metalurgical industries necessary for the industrialization of the war products. This sector's plan in the next stage aims at introducing a very important development in the role of the local military industries. these industries will enter the field of heavy military indistries and modern sophisticated industries to be able to follow up the current development in the new arming of the armed forces. This will be coordinated with the plans of the armed forces and will be carried out in cooperation with the Arab Industrialization Organization and the Industry Ministry in order to mobilize all potentials in the service of the armed forces. This sector will also concentrate on increasing its contribution to the production of the spare parts necessary for the programs on prolonging the life of the eastern armament systems. It will replace the foreign quarters in achieving this vital and economic accomplishment and in preserving a huge national welath.

Furthermore, the military sector carries out its role beyond the armed forces. It shares with its capacities and experience in implementing the national development plans. It produces several catalyst metalurgical and chemical goods and basic commodities necessary for the various sectors of the state.

Mr Speaker and members of the esteemed assembly: The government is giving great attention to the question of food security. The best proof of this is that we declared on various occasions in the past period that more than 20 percent of the state's investment budget has been earmarked for food security alone. The policy of the government in this regard is to work for providing the basic commodities of local production or to meet the needs and averages of consumption.

In the field of agriculture, the government seeks to increase the opportunities of improving soil, increasing the fertilizer and insecticide allotments and expanding the use of agricultural machinery.

Therefore, the government has prepared a plan to storm the problems from which the masses are complaining. The implementation of this plan has actually started. It will be gradually completed during the next 5 years.

The services sector assumes heavy burdens represented in the need to raise the standard of services in all places and in overcoming the problems of the masses. It is the right of our people, who have suffered much for many years, to overcome these problems. Therefore, it was natural that the government should give special attention to this sector. The government has prepared a bill amending the local government law. The most important principle of this bill is the formation of a higher council of the local government under the chairmanship of the prime minister and including the governors and heads of the local popular councils in the governorate. The duty of this council is to consider everything connected with the local government system and to assess and develop this system.

The government believes that education and scientific research are the main cornerstones in preparing the Egyptian man, providing the prerequisites of progress and prosperity for our society and in consolidating our cultural and spiritual values. Therefore, the new education policy of the government is based on reforming and modernizing education.

In the field of health insurance, the Health Ministry has undertaken to insure one million citizens more this year.

In the field of social insurance, great achievements have been realized in implementation of our pledge at your esteemed assembly on 14 June. The number of people directly or indirectly insured has risen to 40 million citizens.

During this stage of construction and consolidation of peace, the armed forces are working dilligently to preserve a military force of a suitable size and of a high combat efficiency capable of safeguarding the state's political borders and of defending it and also capable of developing the armed forces to reach the highest levels of organization, arming and training. This force will also diversify the sources of arms to guarantee that our armed forces obtain enough weapons and equipment to implement the development plans, which have been prepared, and be always prepared to provide urgent aid to any fraternal Arab state or any friendly state which is exposed to armed aggression.

There remains foreign policy. In its statement, which I delivered at the People's Assembly on 14 June 1980, the government explained the clear and firm aims of the Egyptian foreign policy, most important of which is Egypt's pioneer contribution to the establishment of peace. The aim of the comprehensive and just settlement of the Middle East question was and still is Israel's total withdrawal from the Arab territories occupied since 1967 and the confirmation of the legitimate national rights of the Palestinian people.

On the basis of the Camp David agreements, negotiations began among the parties concerned to establish full autonomy as stipulated in these agreements. However, it became clear since the beginning of the negotiation process that there was a wide gap in the views of the Egyptian side and the Israeli side on the concept and dimensions of the autonomy. In view of Israels' intransigent stand, a matter which was clear in the letters exchanged between the president and the Israeli Prime Minister Begin, the president called for a tripartie Egyptian-American-Israeli summit to seek a common understanding of the text and spirit of the Camp David agreements, hoping that such an understanding would become the framework for the resumption of the negotiations to expedite the application of full autonomy. It was considered that the summit would be held after the U.S. elections.

Contacts were held recently. Egypt conveyed three memorandums to the United States during the ministerial meeting which was held in Washington on 4 and 5 October 1980 to prepare for the summit. The first memorandum dealt with the question of Jerusalem and Egypt's rejection of the Israeli measures and asserted the illegality of the settlements. The second memorandum reaffirmed an Egyptian memorandum of confidence-building. The third proposed the channels for establishing contact by the American and Israeli sides with the representatives of the Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza Strip with a view to enabling the participation of the Palestinians in the negotiations and becoming acquainted with their views and stands. The Egyptian Government explained that the contents of these memorandums must be given priority on the agenda of the summit conference.

It was agreed that a general committee of technical representatives from the Egyptian, American and Israeli sides would be formed to discuss the points of agreement and disagreement preparatory to presenting them at a ministerial meeting which would prepare for the summit.

Egypt's embarkation on the peace process alone as it embarked, by virtue of its destiny, on the honor of waging the wars prompted it to issue a [word indistinct] statement considering it a strengthening of the peace process. Egypt's continuous contribution at the United Nations remained effective and influential. The resolution issued by the special session on Palestine came to confirm the rights of the Palestinians. Our serious contribution to the Security Council's debate on Jerusalem resulted in the issuance of a resolution by the council denouncing Israeli measures in Jerusalem and demanding Israel to abandon them. The states which had embassies in Jerusalem decided to transfer them to Tel Aviv.

On this occasion, I would like to praise the African support for the Egyptian peace efforts, particularly the resolution adopted at the African summit conference in Sierre Leone in July 1980.

Egypt's distinguished position in the world permits and welcomes coordination with any efforts that guarantee the continuation of the march of peace toward the comprehensive and just solution. Egypt gets the credit of moving the framework of this solution in Camp David. We signed the peace treaty and we honor our signature and agreement. We signed the Camp David agreement and worked for its implementation. We expect the other side to work for the removal of all obstacles in the way of real, comprehensive and durable peace.

Speaker of the People's Assembly and members of the esteemed assembly, it concerns me to reiterate from above this platform the gratitude of the Egyptian Government to the U.S. Government for its sincere and honest cooperation in its capacity as a full partner in the peace discussions for the establishment of a comprehensive peace in the area. It also concerns me to express the appreciation of the Egyptian Government for President-elect Reagan for his interest in the continuation of the peace process in the required tempo. As an emphasis of the government's part of the importance of its continuation within the Camp David framework, the deputy prime minister and foreign minister will go to Washington in the next few weeks to hold consultations on the preparation for the holding of the tripartite summit conference.

The Egyptian Government is confident that the bonds of the Egyptian-U.S. relations will grow in strength and prosper because they emanate from the joint interests of the Egyptian and American peoples.

Arab solidarity and Islamic solidarity are not mere slogans raised. Egypt was a support for Arabism and Islam before the establishment of the Arab League and the Islamic congress. Egypt will remain, God willing, a support and haven for the free men in the Arab and Islamic worlds.

One of the principle aims that the president demanded be foremost in the duties of the League of the Islamic and Arab Peoples is to resort to all available means to settle differences and disputes and establish fraternal bonds to present the Arab and Islamic nation as a world force.

Egypt will remain faithful to the basic principles of the nonaligned movement. In cooperation with the friendly member states, Egypt will resist the attempts led by Cuba and supported by some rejectionist states to deviate the movement from its march in a manner befitting the Soviet plans of dominating the area and establishing alliances under the name of enmity to [word indistinct]. In this regard, Egypt demands a halt to interference in the domestic affairs of States. It condemns the Israeli attacks against south Lebanon and Israel's encouragement of the separatist movements. It further condemns the Syrian interference in Lebanon. In coordination with the friendly nonaligned states, Egypt is working for terminating the Soviet military occupation of Afghanistan and the Vietnamese military occupation of Kampuchea.

Egypt also looks forward to the settlement of the armed dispute between Iraq and Iran by peaceful methods that would guarantee the rights and interests of both sides.

'ALI ADDRESSES PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY 24 NOV

NC241548 Cairo MENA in English 1430 GMT 24 Nov 80

[Excerpt] Cairo, 24 Nov (MENA)--Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali said today that President as-Sadat's offer to extend the Nile waters to the Negev during his talks with Israeli Premier Begin in Al-'Arish was made after the restoration of 80 percent of the Sinai Desert to Egyptian sovereignty while the only pending issues were Jerusalem and Palestine. The deputy premier and foreign minister, who was addressing today's session of the People's Assembly, added that the president's offer was made to facilitate a comprehensive solution for the Middle East problem and in particular the Jerusalem issue. This demonstrates to what extent Egypt was ready to sacrifice for the sake of the Palestinian issue, he said.

The style through which certain hostile broadcasts and newspapers [dealt with the subject] deviated from the core of the issue and the noble objectives of President as-Sadat emanating from Egypt's responsibility.

The foreign minister also pointed out that the matter was only mentioned in letters exchanged between President as-Sadat and Israeli Premier Begin during the period from August 2 to 14 when the talks were suspended due to Israel's procedures regarding Jerusalem.

The foreign minister went on to say that President as-Sadat has not given any directions to any executive body to make practical or legal studies on the matter, adding that the issue has not been tackled during the autonomy talks or talks on norma'ization.

Deputy Permier and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali went on to stress that if the question of extending the Nile waters went beyond the area of showing good intent this would have required us first to refer the whole thing to the People's Assembly for taking up a decision and having consultations with the countries benifitting of the Nile, as we respect all our agreements regualting the use of Nile waters with the agreement of 1959 between Egypt and the Sudan to the fore.

The foreign minister concluded by saying that if we are to sacrifice part of our waters for the restoration of the rights of Palestinians we would not hesitate to raise the whole question before the People's Assembly and with the countries which the Nile is running through and with which we had agreements in this concern.

Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali, commenting on what has been said by the opposition leader, Ibrahim Shukri, that some papers published reports on moving the Nile water to Jerusalem through the Negev Desert, said that when President as-Sadat raised the idea of moving the Nile water to Jerusalem he did not mention at all main use of this water in the rehabilitation of the Negev Desert but he only meant facilitating solutions to the Palestinian issue and the Palestinian autonomy problems.

The minister ruled out categorically that the question of the Nile water had been tackled during the negotiations with Israel. Commenting on the fears raised by the opposition leader of building settlements in the Negev Desert, the minister said that Egypt deplored the building of settlements in the West Bank and Gaza Strip and that we have got no right to interfere whether Israel builds settlements or not inside its borders in the Negev Desert.

The minister asserted that Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin turned down the idea of moving waters to Jerusalem and this question was over since it was raised.

ISMA'IL COMMENTS ON ASYUT UNIVERSITY INCIDENTS

NC221335 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 22 Nov 80

[Text] Deputy Prime Minister and Interior Minister Muhammad Nabawi Isma'il made a statement today before the People's Assembly. He explained the ramifications of certain actions by a number of students, not exceeding 14, from the Asyut University. He said that the government is bound to inform the masses frankly and completely about everything that occurs in Egypt.

The interior minister said the incident happened while preparations for the students' residence in the boarding house were underway. About 14 students were not accepted in the university residence because they did not meet the conditions for residence. As a result, these students started riots and used pressure and violence to force the university to change its decision. They also tried to influence the students of the university residence.

The interior minister further said that studies began in the university today with peace and stability. Those who provoked the riots have been detained and the prosecution is interrogating them in an atmosphere of absolute justice and democracy, which President as-Sadat has provided for all the people.

The interior minister said that within the supremacy of law the government will not allow any breach of law. The government will strike at such actions and nip them in the bud to achieve security, the supremacy of law and legal values so as to enable the students to continue their studies.

PALME DISCUSSES IRAN, IRAQ SITUATION WITH AFP

NC241320 Paris AFP in English 1240 GMT 24 Nov 80

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 24 Nov (AFP)--Rounding off a United Nations investigative mission here today, former Swedish Prime Minister Olof Palme said he considered it a "success" but was "neither optimistic nor pessimistic" about the chances of a speedy solution to the Iranian-Iraqi war.

Mr Palme, who had lengthy talks in both Tehran and Baghdad at the request of UN Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim, said in an exclusive interview with AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE that it would be rash to expect immediate results.

But both here and in the Iranian capital he expressed the conviction that both sides were seriously motivated to seek peace as both wanted to "use their resources for development, not war".

Mr Palme told AFP that both nations were fiercely attached to their independence and wanted above all to preserve it from superpower influence.

He added that both governments were "conscious of the risk of the war spreading down the Gulf" and of the danger that this would provoke an intervention by the superpowers, making the Gulf war a "world issue".

The former minister described his talks here as a "success", saying he had met President Saddam Husayn after six hours' talks with Foreign Minister Tariq 'Aziz.

Mr Palme said that he had been given a clear picture of the Iraqi side, adding that the talks had been "constructive" and informative.

But as to the chances of a speedy solution, Mr Palme said he "refused to be either optimistic or pessimistic" as the conflict was complicated and serious.

He told AFP it was too early to say on what points the two sides appeared "diametrically opposed" and in what areas he felt there was room to manoeuvre.

Asked how he felt his mission fitted in with other initiatives, by the non-aligned movement and the Islamic conference, Mr Palme said that all initiatives were useful but that the advantage of his talks was that they were backed by the United Nations and conducted through its channels.

HAMMADI CRITICIZES USSR IN KUWAITI PAPER

LD250826 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0725 GMT 25 Nov 80

[Text] Kuwait, 25 Nov (KUNA)--Iraqi Foreign Minister Dr Sa'dun Hammadi, in an interview appearing in today's issue of the Kuwaiti paper AL-QABAS, strongly attacked the Soviet Union, which is linked to Baghdad by a treaty of friendship, accusing it of not believing in real independence for other countries.

He said Iraq is not wrong in its more than 2-month-old war with Iran. Dr Hammadi said: The two superpowers do not like speaking [word indistinc] on real independence for states. The two superpowers do not believe in real independence for states; they speak only about legal and formal independence.

He said Iraqi officials, whose relations with Moscow have recently cooled, particularly since the latter adopted a neutral stand the Irani-Iraq war, have criticized Soviet policies, especially in Afghanistan. Dr Hammadi's statement is regarded as the strongest criticism in this respect by Iraqi officials. The two countries have been linked by a treaty of friendship and cooperation for 9 years, but reports say that Iraq has not received fresh deliveries of Soviet weapons [words indistinct] since the outbreak of the war with Iran last September.

The Iraqi minister said the two superpowers would not want our world to be truly independent, because in such a situation how would the United States be able to mobilize against the Soviet Union, pursue its interests and conduct its policies..and how would the Soviet Union be able to spread communism in the world and mobilize against the United States?

Replying to questions on the Gulf war, Dr Hammadi said: We were not wrong in our calculations; everything indicates that our calculations were right. He said: After 2 months of war, Iraq is now moving from a state of emergency to a normal situation, and not the contrary. As evidence of normalization of the situation, he cited the opening of schools and the return of foreign companies which had left in the early weeks of the fighting.

Dr Hammadi said Iraq would not submit the question of the war to the Arab summit due to open in Amman and would not ask for anything definite from the summit in this respect.

He said: It would be best for the Arab nation to discuss this conflict with Iran because it concerns Arab land and sovereignty, but as far as we are concerned, we do not want to cause fresh disputes or to complicate matters.

RCC VICE CHAIRMAN RECEIVES UK AMBASSADOR

JN231236 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1200 GMT 23 Nov 80

[Text] 'Izzat Ibrahim, vice chairman of the Revolution Command Council, this morning received (S. L. Eggerton), the new British ambassador to Baghdad. The discussion dealt with mutual cooperation between the two countries.

PRESS PRAISES PARTICIPANTS IN ARAB SUMMIT

JN231030 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 23 Nov 80

[Press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Facing One's Self" AR-RA'Y says: In order to assume pan-Arab responsibility, place the Arab cause above all other considerations and to be faithful to the Palestinian people, who are courageously resisting the occupation, the Arab foreign ministers have decided to convene the Arab summit in Amman as scheduled.

This decision and the approval of the joint Arab political and economic strategy mean that the Arab march is proceeding along the right path and that unified Arab action will enter the stage of implementation through the forthcoming Arab summit in Amman.

Needless to say, the coming important phase, which the Arab masses have been awaiting for a long time, will be the real test for support of the Arab cause. The Arab masses will never forgive any Arab party that fails to participate in the assumption of responsibility or neglects its role in the Arab march which will stem from the Amman summit.

Naturally, the presence of the Palestinians in the summit is essential and fundamental to our loyalty to the hopes and aspirations of the people in the occupied territories. Undoubtedly, the PLO, which shoulders the responsibility of representing the Palestinians, understands this.

Our Syrian brothers, who withdrew from the summit, and others who might be thinking of withdrawing must remember the pan-Arab responsibilities they will abandon by not participating in the summit. They must neither forget the ordeal of the Palestinian people and their duty toward this people, nor the challenges presently threatening the Arab world or which will threaten it in the future. We hope they will be true to themselves. Facing up to one's self is the biggest struggle, because this means placing oneself above all disputes, setbacks and the abandoning of responsibility.

Jordan, which is opening its arms to welcome the Arab leaders to the great summit on Tuesday, believes that the net phase will be a major and serious one that appeals to a unified Arab stand. Jordan, which has been calling for joint Arab action, is proud that Amman will be the venue of the Arab meeting and the place for joint Arab action. Jordan welcomes the Arab leaders. We praise the Arab leaders. We praise the Arab foreign ministers for their fruitful and successful conference, which appropriately upheld principles, pan-Arab interests and the Arab cause.

SYRIAN PRESS 'THREATS' AGAINST JORDAN REPORTED

JN231434 Amman PETRA-JNA In Arabic 1420 GMT 23 Nov 80

[Text] Amman, 23 Nov (PETRA)--The Syrian newspaper AL-BA'TH launches a new attack today on Jordanian policy, particularly Jordan's open-door policy to the world.

The paper strongly criticizes the dialogue Jordan is conducting with international groups that have influence on the course of events in the Middle East area.

For the last 2 days the Syrian papers have been attacking Jordan's pro-Iraq stand. These papers' editorials have been full of expressions of threats, revenge and sabotage.

SYRIAN CHIEF OF STAFF VISITS; LEBANON REFUSES SUMMIT

NC240844 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 24 Nov 80

[Text] Attention continues to focus on the Arab summit conference issue. President Sarkis is scheduled to hold another meeting in the presidential palace with the prime minister and the foreign minister to continue the discussion on this issue. At 0915 today, Maj Gen Hikmat Ash-Shihabi, [the Syrian chief of staff] arrived in Shtawrah, where he was received by the Arab Deterrent Forces commander, Brig Gen Sami al-Khatib. The two then proceeded immediately to the presidential palace.

Meeting With Sarkis

NC241105 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1000 GMT 24 Nov 80

[Text] President Ilyas Sarkis is now meeting with Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan and Foreign Minister Fu'ad Butrus to resolve the question of Lebanon's participation in the Arab summit conference in Amman.

Earlier, at 1000, President Sarkis met with the Syrian chief of staff, Maj Gen Hikmat ash-Shihabi. After the 1-hour meeting, Major General ash-Shihabi said that he delivered a message from President Hafiz al-Asad to President Sarkis on the current Arab situation and on the contacts made regarding the summit conference. He added: We talked, and President Sarkis expressed his views on the topics raised. Our views were fully identical on all issues.

Major General ash-Shihabi confirmed that Syria would not attend the Arab summit conference. It is now up to the other Arabs, he said.

He added: We have always conveyed a wish to the other Arabs that they not hold a conference unless it produces results favorable for the Arabs. At 1115, President Sarkis met with the Arab Deterrent Forces commander Brig Gen Sami al-Khatib.

Decision Against Summit

NC241920 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 24 Nov 80

[Text] Lebanon will not participate in the Arab summit conference tomorrow. This was decided at the meeting that was held in the republican place this evening under the chairmanship of His Excellency President Ilyas Sarkis and in the presence of Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan and Foreign Minister Fu'ad Butrus.

As a result of this meeting and in light of the contacts Lebanon has conducted, and since it has been ascertained that Syria will not participate in the Arab summit conference scheduled for tomorrow in Amman, and because the main topic in the agenda of this conference is to establish a unified Arab strategy--a strategy that is inconceivable in the absence of Syria--and in keeping with Lebanon's stand at the latest Arab summit conference and at the Arab foreign ministers conference that was held in Amman, based on the premise that the southern Lebanon crisis can only be dealt with effectively within the framework of a comprehensive Arab strategy--and this condition cannot be met at present--it was decided at today's meeting that Lebanon will not participate in the Arab summit conference tomorrow.

Lebanon regrets the need to take this stand, but maintains that it will continue its contacts to ensure the factors that will enable convening such a conference successfully in the near future.

IRAN'S RAFSANJANI MEETS WITH LEADERSHIP

People's Assembly Speech

JN240610 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 24 Nov 80

[Excerpts] Damascus--The Syrian People's Assembly held a session at 1800 last night under Assembly Speaker Mahmud Hadid. A number of government ministers attended the session. It was also attended by the Iranian Majlis delegation, led by Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi Rafsanjani, who is currently visiting Syria with his accompanying delegation.

Speaking on the Iraqi-Iranian war and the conspiratorial role which Saddam Husayn's regime is playing in the service of U.S. imperialism and reaction, the Iranian Majlis speaker said that the United States promised Saddam it would impose him as a new shah in the area, in return for his pledge not to intervene against Israel if he won his war against the Iranian revolution. He added that all signs indicate that there is full cooperation and coordination among the United States, Saddam Husayn and the Jordanian regime in striking at the Iranian Islamic revolution.

Rafsanjani asserted that there is nothing to justify Saddam Husayn's war against the Iranian revolution which supports the Arab cause and Arab rights. He added: We have prepared ourselves for a protracted war which has been imposed upon us. The fraternal Iraqi people should prepare themselves to assume power and deliver themselves from dictator Saddam Husayn.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Rafsanjani affirmed that the Iranian revolution will support the eastern front, in cooperation with the countries of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front. The war of liberation--the liberation of Palestine and holy Jerusalem--is near. God willing, we will triumph in this war.

Concluding his speech, Hojjat ol-Eslam Rafsanjani extended his deep gratitude, on behalf of the Iranian people, to Syria and its leader, President Hafiz al-Asad, for their honorable stands in defense of justice and dignity.

Ba'th Official Meeting

JN241456 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 24 Nov 80

[Text] Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, Ba'th Party assistant secretary general, this morning received an Iranian delegation led by Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi Rafsanjani, speaker of the Iranian Consultative Assembly. The Iranian delegation is currently touring several Arab countries.

During the meeting, the two sides reviewed the situation in the area in light of the imperialist-Zionist-reactionary scheme against the Arabs and Muslims and the war fabricated by Saddam Husayn against the Islamic revolution in Iran to serve the schemes of the United States, Zionism and reaction.

The Iranian delegation expressed appreciation for Arab Syria's stand under struggler President Hafiz al-Asad on the Islamic revolution in Iran and its confrontation of the schemes of imperialism and its agent Saddam Husayn, who waged a war against Iran on behalf of the United States to defeat the revolution and return the U.S. agents to Iran.

Comrade al-Ahmar stressed Syria's stand on the Iranian revolution and referred to the Syrian people's continued struggle against imperialism and Zionism to snatch victory by liberating the occupied Arab territories and regaining the Palestinian people's usurped rights.

Al-Ahmar also expressed Syria's appreciation for the Iranian revolution's stands on Arab issues in general and the Palestinian issue in particular. He also expressed confidence that the Iranian people will be capable of triumphing over the schemes of imperialism and its agents and of protecting their revolution, which has provided the militant peoples with new revolutionary opportunities for achieving their national aspirations.

Al-Asad Meeting

JN241441 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 24 Nov 80

[Text] At 1330 today His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad received Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi Rafsanjani, speaker of the Iranian Consultative Assembly, and Mohammad 'Ali Hadi, chairman of the foreign relations committee of the Iranian Consultative Assembly.

The meeting was attended by People's Assembly Speaker Mahmud Hadid.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi Rafsanjani conveyed to President Hafiz al-Asad greetings from Imam Khomeyni and President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr.

The two sides discussed bilateral relations, Arab-Iranian relations and the current situation between Iraq and Iran.

Hojjat ol-Eslam Hashemi Rafsanjani, on behalf of the Iranian Consultative Assembly, expressed the Iranian people's appreciation for the Syrian stand in support of the Islamic revolution of Iran and stressed Iran's concern over strengthening militant links between the two friendly countries and establishing relations of friendship and cooperation between them and with the other Arab countries which are hostile to injustice and imperialism.

His Excellency President Hafiz al-Asad expressed appreciation for the Islamic Republic of Iran's principled stand in support of the Arab struggle against imperialism and Zionism and for Palestine and for the repulse of the Zionist aggression.

President Hafiz al-Asad also reiterated Syria's support for the Islamic revolution in Iran in its confrontation with imperialism.

At the end of the meeting, President al-Asad asked Rafsanjani to convey his greetings and that of the Syrian Arab people to Imam Khomeyni, President Bani-Sadr, the members of the Iranian Consultative Assembly and the friendly Iranian people.

Those attending the meeting had lunch with the president.

MEDIA, LEADERSHIP EXPRESS OPPOSITION TO SUMMIT

Khaddam Statement

JN242212 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 24 Nov 80

[Text] Syria asserted today that it will not attend the meetings of the Arab summit conference in Amman on any level and that it will not participate in a summit where the atmosphere under which it would be held cannot serve the march of joint Arab action.

This assertion was made by 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, who returned to Damascus from Algiers today after having conveyed messages from President Hafiz al-Asad to brother Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, the leader of the 1 September revolution, and Algerian President Chedli Bendjedid.

In a statement upon his arrival, Khaddam said: I have conveyed messages from President Hafiz al-Asad to Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and President Chedli Bendjedid dealing with the Arab situation, the Arab summit and the reasons that have prompted Syria to call for the postponement of this summit, particularly those concerning the Arab situation and the need to tackle the abnormal situation in Arab relations for the sake of establishing an Arab solidarity that would enable the Arab nation to confront the dangers menacing it. The convocation of the summit before holding contacts aimed at purifying the tense Arab atmosphere is bound to erupt the summit and to wreck the possibility of holding a new Arab summit for a long time. This will not serve the Arab nation and its principal cause.

President Hafiz al-Asad's two messages have asserted Syria's eagerness to preserve Arab solidarity, which constitutes the cornerstone of its policy, particularly since it is the main confrontation state and since it views the Arab nation as a depth for its forces.

Khaddam stressed that viewpoints between the three Arab leaders--Al-Asad, Al-Qadhdhafi and Chedli Bendjedid--are identical on the need to postpone the Arab summit conference and to seek suitable circumstances for holding an Arab summit that will pursue the process of joint Arab action on solid and sound bases.

In reply to a question on the stands Lebanon and the PDRY have adopted, 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam said: Contacts have been made with PDRY President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad and Lebanese President His Excellency Ilyas Sarkis. The result of these contacts proved that our viewpoints were in agreement on the need to postpone the summit conference and to exert persistent efforts to rectify the Arab situation and thus hold a summit conference in which all Arab countries and the PLO would participate.

In reply to another question, Khaddam said that any Arab summit in which Syria and Palestine do not participate will not be capable of discussing the means of confronting the Zionist enemy.

Khaddam replied to another question on the possibility of Syria's participation in the summit conference with a symbolic presence, saying: Syria announced its position at the Arab foreign ministers conference and has reiterated that it does not shoulder the responsibility of attending a conference which is proceeding toward the unknown; namely, that the conference will be held within the framework of King Husayn's statements to the magazine AN-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AD-DUWALI which contained clear indications that King Husayn clings to the West Bank and wishes to remove it from the Palestinian cause and to undermine the pan-Arab role of the PLO. The Palestinian people, the Arab nation and world public opinion have expressed their commitment to this role.

Summit Objectives

JN231155 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 23 Nov 80

[Press review]

[Text] Today's press comments are devoted to the Arab summit and the position taken concerning it by Syria and the steadfastness front.

In a comment entitled "There Is No Going Back On Summit Conference Resolutions," TISHRIN says: Some Arab sides were so determined about the 11th Arab summit that they decided to hold it on the date set for it a year ago despite its potential danger to inter-Arab relations. This attitude has caused anxiety among the Arab masses, which are perturbed by the current deterioration in Arab relations and the suspect U.S. imperialist moves to strike at Arab unity and produce another As-Sadat who would be willing to negotiate a settlement which would have a new name and to implement the second phase of the Camp David framework; namely, the liquidation of the Palestine question and the replacement of the PLO by another negotiator which would be willing to enter the game to be led by new U.S. president Ronald Reagan.

TISHRIN says: It is no longer a secret now after the statements made by U.S. President-elect Reagan and some of his aides and the resolutions adopted by the Socialist International at the behest of the Israeli Labor leader and, also after the statements made by Peres and other Israeli opposition leaders, that the enemies of the Arab nation are hoping that Jordan will play the role of a new As-Sadat. Those involved in the game are also seeking an Arab cover for Jordan or others who would have the courage to enter the game with U.S. imperialism and claim that they are authorized to negotiate on behalf of the Arabs.

The paper adds: Involvement in the U.S. game to liquidate the Palestine question does not only call for giving authority to the new As-Sadat to negotiate with the United States, but also for going back on the basic and principled resolutions adopted by previous Arab summits--especially the resolution on the unity of the Arab cause and the impermissibility of splitting it or tackling it unilaterally, and also the one that the PLO is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian Arab people and that the racist Zionist entity and its protector imperialism are the main enemies of the Arab nation. This is what the United States, Israel and the parties involved with U.S. imperialism are trying to achieve through the 11th summit.

TISHRIN says: Those seeking the immediate convocation of the summit are also seeking another objective; it is to obtain Arab support for Saddam's war against Iran, a war which is serving the interests of the United States and Israel and harming those of Iraq, the Arab nation and the liberation movements in the area. Those enthusiastic about giving an Arab cover to the U.S. proxy war carried out by Saddam are the very ones who are calling for realism and wisdom when the matter concerns confrontation with the racist Zionist enemy.

TISHRIN asserts that the struggle against this plot must continue by all available means and possibilities inside and outside conferences and also in the political and other fields. The interests of the Arab nation and its cause call for adhering to the resolutions of the previous Arab summits and preventing any new As-Sadat from joining the capitulation game on behalf of the Arabs. Syria, which adheres to Arab solidarity as part of its strategy, will not spare any efforts to foil the plot. It will continue to cooperate with and serve as a vanguard for the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front.

In another comment, TISHRIN says: As part of the general outlines of its foreign policy, the administration of U.S. President-elect Ronald Reagan has developed a Middle East plan that supplements and harmonizes with the Camp David accords. This plan is to bring Jordan to the conference table with Israel. Richard Allen, Reagan's chief adviser, who will possibly be his national security adviser, has announced that the Reagan administration is interested in the Camp David process and that the future target is to include Jordan in the peace process.

The paper adds: How will this task be accomplished? Theoretically, the Jordanian Government is still committed to the resolutions of the 9th and 10th Arab summits which oppose the Camp David accords. When the administration of a U.S. president-elect, which immediately upon his election received a warm congratulatory cable from the King of Transjordan [sharq al-urdun] acclaiming Reagan's concern for peace, announced that it would include Jordan in negotiations, it did so out of conviction that there would be no official Jordanian rejection of its declared task. This is the case because Reagan would not have started his administration by talking about tasks that could not be fulfilled. Therefore, one can certainly say that the king has given carte blanch to Reagan concerning his declared task. The only thing that remains is to prepare the framework for carrying this out.

Value of Summit

JN241730 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 24 Nov 80

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] Consultations are being held among the partners in the pan-Arab Front for Steadfastness and Confrontation to discuss the situation which has resulted from the determination of some Arab sides to convene the 11th Arab summit conference on the date set for it a year ago, when circumstances differed from those sorrowful circumstances currently prevailing in the Arab arena.

The purpose of such consultations is to crystallize a unified stand for the front's members on the joint practices and steps to be adopted, steps which would prevent the exploitation of Arab summits in such a way that an Arab cover is given for a new plot against the Palestinian issue, a plot that would repeat As-Sadat's plot but being concocted this time with Reagan instead of Carter.

Thus, such joint activities and steps would prevent the abandonment of the arena of the summit conference by those who are planning to enter into a U.S. settlement, who are working to fragment the unity of the Arab ranks and who are exploiting the general Arab desire for safeguarding Arab solidarity and joint Arab action in order to implement imperialist desires and the aspirations of the capitulatory and defeatist trends.

The members of the pan-Arab Front for Steadfastness and Confrontation will not abandon the arena. Indeed, these members will be present in every Arab meeting and on the level they deem fit in order to confront the plot and those who made the unity of the Arab ranks a cover for the plots of Reagan and Begin and those colluding with and pinning high hopes on them.

The purpose behind convening the forthcoming summit is to explode Arab relations, fragment Arab ranks and pave the way for getting out of the pan-Arab commitment to the Palestinian issue and entering the game of a U.S. settlement.

The great significance of the previous summits lies in the participation of the Arab sides that are principle parties in the battle and these sides' agreement to shoulder the demands of the great battle with the Zionist and imperialist enemy and in the agreement of the other Arab sides, in one form or another, to be committed to the pan-Arab issue and making contributions--even if such contributions are often merely symbolic--to the preparations for the battle.

Thus, what actual value would the new summit have if the leaders of the member states of the pan-Arab Front for Steadfastness and Confrontation absent themselves from it? What effect would such a summit have with regard to the front of confrontation with the Zionist enemy if Syria, Lebanon and the PLO, while being formally represented at the conference by official delegations on a level that is much lower than the required level, are actually absent from the conference? What can those who for more than 30 years have been merely selling words and statements to the nation while actually abstaining from rallying potentials, capabilities, forces and Arab money to the arenas where the fateful conflict between the Arab nation and the Zionist-imperialist enemy might take place, do for the battle of liberation of the occupied territory and for regaining the Palestinian people's national rights?

Those who have been shirking the responsibility of establishing a strategic balance with the enemy cannot work to achieve a settlement that would guarantee the Arab nation's dignity, liberate this nation's territory and secure the Palestinian people's rights and their right to practice these rights on their national soil.

Thus, slipping in and entering negotiations for settlement with U.S. imperialism and, subsequently, Zionism at a time when the balance of power has been upset as a result of As-Sadat's treason and the U.S. imperialist plot against the Arab nation, cannot constitute a step toward repeating the implementation of As-Sadat's plot through using a new method and a new, even more masterful production.

Thus, the weak who are appealing for the compassion of U.S. imperialism cannot but attain the mere crumbs of the imperialist and Zionist tables. Those who are placing their eggs in Reagan's basket are no different from those who put their eggs in Carter's basket. Indeed, this reality cannot be changed, even if there are premeditated attempts to undermine the slogan of Arab solidarity and joint Arab action and to make this slogan serve those colluding with imperialism and Zionism and a means for getting out of the pan-Arab commitment to the Palestinian issue, the battle of liberation of the occupied territory and regaining the Palestinian people's national rights.

U.S. Role

JN251055 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 25 Nov 80

[Press review]

[Text] In its "Behind the News" corner, the newspaper TISHRIN says in a commentary entitled "They Wanted It To Be a Battle on Behalf of the United States; So Be It": The haste of those supporting the Camp David accords to attend the Amman summit gives an idea of the effort that U.S. imperialism is exerting to hold a conference in Amman which will introduce into the Arab arena the disaster which it failed to introduce at the Baghdad and Tunis summits.

The Arab masses know that U.S. imperialism is in a big hurry; but that certain Arabs should be bold enough to outdo U.S. haste is something the Arab masses did not expect.

TISHRIN adds: U.S. imperialism sustained three major setbacks over the past few years in the Middle East. These setbacks were: The foiling realistically and historically of Israel's role in the area through the October war, the failure of attempts to impose the Camp David accords in the Arab arena, and the overthrow of the shah's regime. U.S. imperialism is doing its best to take revenge against this area and to return it to U.S. hegemony. The United States has plotted conspiracies against Syria. It sent the U.S. war machine to kill Palestinians and Lebanese citizens. It undertook a fascist military adventure against the Iranian revolution and then instigated Saddam's regime to wage a war on its behalf against the Iranian revolution which supports the Arab struggle against Zionism and imperialism. It sent its ships to Arab waters and waters close to the Arab homeland and it set up aggressive military bases on Arab land with the help of rulers who overstepped the will of the people.

The current attempt by certain conspiratorial and defeatist Arab quarters to destroy Arab relations, overstep Arab solidarity and crown a new Arab traitor who would negotiate with the United States and would agree to plot against the Palestinian cause, people and revolution amounts to a U.S. war by proxy against national Arab liberation movements, the Palestinian cause and Arab solidarity and cohesion. What Arab value remains for a conference attended by Qabus, Barre and their likes while the parties to the Confrontation and Solidarity Front are absent from it? Syria, which stands in confrontation against Israel, the organization of the Arab Palestinian people which is paying the price of the imperialist, Zionist reactionary conspiracy and Lebanon which is suffering because the enemy is playing havoc with its fate, security and the sanctity of its territorial waters and lands, are all absent from the summit. What Arab value adheres to such a conference which is dedicated to opening opportunities for those who have to date concealed their agentry, plotting and defeatism, their understanding with imperialism and their covert interaction with the treasonous regime of As-Sadat behind overt adherence to Arab solidarity?

What value can the Arab masses attach to a conference that aims at putting the Palestinian cause in the hands of King Husayn, Ronald Reagan and Shim'on Peres?

The pro-U.S. Arabs have exposed themselves and have chosen their position and begun the battle on the behalf of the United States against the forces of solidarity, and struggle for the liberation of the occupied Arab lands and regaining of the rights of the Arab Palestinian people.

They have willed it to be a battle against the Arab masses and the forces confronting, in word and deed, Zionist and imperialism. So be it. But they ought to know that the Arab masses have not yet lost a battle they fought against treasonous leaders. They should recall the fates of the patron [not further identified], Faysal and Nuri as-Sa'id, so as to become familiar with their own fates.

ASH-SHAR' DEPARTS WITH MESSAGE FOR PDRY PRESIDENT

JN240804 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0744 GMT 24 Nov 80

[Text] Damascus, 24 Nov (SANA)--Faruq ash-Shar', minister of state for foreign affairs, left Damascus this morning for Aden with a message from President Hafiz al-Asad to PDRY President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad containing viewpoints on the current situation in the region.

KHADDAM RECEIVES ALGERIAN, PDRY, PLO OFFICIALS

JN231214 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 23 Nov 80

[Text] Damascus--At 1000 today 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, met with Mohamed Seddik ben Yahia, Algerian foreign minister; Salim Salih Muhammad, PDRY foreign minister; Faruq Qaddumi, head of the PLO Political Department; 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar, PLO official spokesman; and Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh, head of the PLO Information Department.

The meeting was attended by Faruq ash-Shar', minister of state for foreign affairs. During the meeting, a discussion of the current situation in the Arab area was held.

AL-ASAD RECEIVES PLO'S 'ARAFAT, PDRY, YAR OFFICIALS

JN231940 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 23 Nov 80

[Text] At 1930 this evening, President Hafiz Al-Asad received Yasir 'Arafat, PLO Executive Committee chairman, Khalid Al-Fahum, Palestine National Council speaker, Faruq Qaddumi, head of the Executive Committee's Political Department, 'Abd Al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar, Tala Naji and Muhammad Zuhdi An-Nashashibi, Executive Committee members, and Salah Khalaf, Fatah Central Committee member.

The two sides assessed the special circumstances of the Arab summit conference. Yasir 'Arafat reviewed the results of his tour of a number of Arab countries over the last few days. They also reviewed the general situation in the Arab arena.

At 1700 today President Hafiz Al-Asad received Salim Salih Muhammad, PDRY foreign minster, who conveyed a message to him dealing with the stand on the Arab summit conference. Their talks centered on this subject and on the two fraternal countries' relations.

Earlier, at 1545 today, President al-Asad received YAR Foreign Minister 'Ali Lutfi ath-Thawr and YAR Ambassador in Damascus 'Ali Muhammad Abu al-Luhum. The YAR foreign minister conveyed a message to President al-Asad from President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih dealing with the stand on the Arab summit meeting and the circumstances of its convocation. The two sides exchanged views on this subject.

BA'TH PARTY OFFICIAL RECEIVES SED DELEGATION

JN230810 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 23 Nov 80

[Text] Damascus--Comrade Muhammad Haydar, member of the National Command of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and head of the Foreign Relations Bureau, last night received the delegation of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany (SED) headed by Herr Gerhard Grueneberg, Politburo member and secretary of the party Central Committee.

The discussion during this meeting dealt with the firm relations between the Ba'th Party and SED, and means of developing these relations and expanding cooperation between Syria and the GDR in all fields to serve the two friendly peoples' interests and common struggle against imperialism and Zionism. The two sides exchanged viewpoints on matters concerning both parties and countries and other issues of mutual concern.

Herr Grueneberg expressed his country's appreciation for Syria's prominent role in firmly confronting imperialist and Zionist plots represented by the Camp David accords and their results. He also stressed the firm support of the SED and the GDR Government for the Arab nation's struggle to liberate all the occupied Arab territories and to guarantee the inalienable rights of the Palestinian Arab people. Grueneberg condemned Israel's expansionist policy.

Comrade Muhammad Haydar outlined the basic principles of the 13th national congress and 7th regional congress of the party in Syria on the domestic, Arab and international levels. These are the determination to confront the plot against Syria, to crush the Muslim Brotherhood plotters and liquidate their centers by strengthening national unity and consolidating the socialist gains, to build the material and eocnomic foundation which will strengthen Syria's capability to confront the Camp David plot and foil its results, to strengthen Arab Solidarity on the basis of effective struggle against Zionism and imperialism and to increase the cohesion among the various groups of the Arab revolution in the interest of the Arab cause.

Comrade Haydar explained our clear position on the Iraqi war against the Iranian revolution. This position stems from our conviction that this war is against the priorities of Arab struggle, undermines Arab solidarity and serves the objectives of imperialism and Zionism in the region.

Comrade Haydar stressed the importance of strengthening and consolidating the struggle ties between Arab national progressive forces and the progressive and socialist forces in the world headed by the friendly USSR.

Comrade Haydar expressed our party's appreciation for the SED's support for the Arab struggle and just Arab issues.

IRAQ OPPOSITION FRONT CABLES PRESIDENT AL-ASAD

JN241634 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 24 Nov 80

["Text" of cable of greetings from the Iraqi Democratic National and Patriotic Front to Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad--date and place not given]

[Text] The Democratic National and Patriotic Front in Iraq seizes the opportunity of its establishment in struggler Damascus to send you and the Progressive National Front in Syria its militant greetings and abundant gratitude for the aid offered by steadfast Syria to our national movement in Iraq, which is confronting the dictatorial regime imposed on our people by the force of iron, fire and bloody terrorism.

The declaration of the establishment of the front in Damascus is an expression of the close relations uniting the struggle of our fraternal peoples against imperialism and Zionism, dictatorial and reactionary cliques. We proudly recall that liberated Syria has been the refuge for Iraqi nationalists for more than 30 years. Syria is now a bastion launching a brave struggle on behalf of the Arab nation to unite its national andprogressive forces, which are included in the Progressive National Front. Syria is the base for the national Front for Steadfastness and Confrontation and for strengthening relations of friendship and cooperation with the USSR--the friend of the Arabs and their ally--and with world revolutionary forces. Syria has been bravely steadfast in the face of the imperialist-Zionist onslaught. It has destroyed the conspiracies, foiled sabotage operations carried out by reactionary forces and destroyed the gang of the Muslim Brotherhood organization. Syria has worked hard to liberate the Golan, Jerusalem and all the territories occupied by the racist Zionists. It has supported the struggle of the valiant Palestinian people, the resistance factions and the Lebanese nationalist movement, the struggle of the Egyptian people and their national front, the struggle of our Iraqi people and their Democratic National and Patriotic Front.

Our Iraqi people, their national and nationalist and democratic forces and parties, praise Syria's continuous struggle under your leadership to achieve the unity of the struggle of all Arab nationalists. They feel happiness for each achievement on this line. They greet the efforts exerted for establishing unity with fraternal Libya on the bases which serve the strengthening of the Arab nation's struggle against imperialism and Zionism in order to achieve democracy and social progress for its struggling peoples.

Our people praise Syria's achievements in the field of social progress under your leadership. We wish you more achievements.

The Democratic National and Patriotic front in Iraq greets you and thanks you for your militant stands, which support our people's struggle. We are looking forward to the day of victory that will be effected by our people against the abhorrent dictatorial regime of the bolldy clique of Saddam Husayn, which has gone far in persecuting the people and which has forfeited the people's national interests and the interests of the Arab nation.

This clique has foiled the role of Iraq and the Iraqi Armed Forces in the battle against imperialism and Zionism. It has committed a new crime in launching the war against the Islamic Republic of Iran.

We have great confidence in the victory of our people due to their heroic struggle and the support offered by fraternal Syria, the forces of the Arab liberation movement and the progressive forces in the world.

We greet you again. We wish our brothers in Syria, the people, the army and the Progressive National Front, more victories. Please accept our deep respect.

PAPER CITES JORDAN, IRAQ SUPPORT FOR 'CONSPIRACY'

JN220725 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 22 Nov 80

[Press review]

[Excerpt] In its editorial entitled "The Issue Between Treachery and Nobility," the newspaper TISHRIN comments on the revelations made in the televised interview with Ziyad Silkah concerning the Jordanian and Iraqi regimes' cooperation and collusion with the training and financing of the gang of murderers to carry out its dirty crimes against Syria and its people, who have always stretched a hand of brotherhood toward the Arab peoples in Jordan and Iraq.

The paper says: Syria has always stretched its sincere and honest hand to these peoples with pan-Arab nobility and chivalry for which it is known, while feeling the pain of the dagger directed against it on its northern and southern flanks. Syria always insisted on bringing about any form of Arab solidarity while everybody was conspiring against it. Revolutionary and steadfast Syria became a target because it is the main obstacle to the conspiracy.

TISHRIN adds: Syria will not allow the exposed plotting against it to peddle the conspiracy. It will avenge every single drop of innocent and honest blood shed in this country. It will avenge every Syrian citizen killed by the bullets of the conspiracy financed by these two regimes. The security and welfare of the citizen in Syria is an essential part of the security of the homeland, and the security of the homeland is the most prominent sanctity of the revolution and its leader Al-Asad, a sanctity which cannot be harmed or tampered with. Syria knows how to defend its sanctities and how to cut off any hand that tries to harm the homeland. Syria promises and always keeps its word.

ALGERIA

POLITICAL BUREAU DECIDES NOT TO ATTEND ARAB SUMMIT

LD250124 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 0000 GMT 25 Nov 80

[Text] President of the Republic and FLN Party Secretary General Chadli Bejedid yesterday chaired a meeting of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee to study the situation in the Arab world and to discuss issues related to the convening of the Arab summit conference on 25 November.

In this connection, the Political Bureau heard a report presented by member of the Central Committee and Foreign Minister Mohamed Ben Yahia on the work of seven-man committee charged with defining an Arab political strategy and on the results of the meeting of the Arab foreign ministers and the contacts he had made in Amman and Damascus. The Political Bureau was also briefed on the decision taken by the PLO and Syria not to attend the Arab summit.

The Political Bureau decided that the situation makes it impossible for the kings and presidents to discuss the Palestinian issue or adopt any decision in this regard in the absence of the confrontation states--in particular the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

Therefore, the Political Bureau took the view that Algeria cannot participate in adopting such decisions. Consesquently, it will not take part in the summit conference sechduled to be held on 25 November.

The Political Bureau stressed that Algeria, which has spared no effort to bring about Arab unanimity on convening the summit conference, adheres to Arab solidarity and to joint Arab action and will forever believe in the inevitability of the unity of the Arab ranks in the struggle for the liberation of Palestine and all occupied Arab territories and for the attainment of prosperity and affluence for the Arab nation.

The Political Bureau hopes that conditions will prevail for the convening of a summit conference where all [words indistinct] of all Arabs kings and presidents.

SYRIA'S KHADDAM ARRIVES, MAKES STATEMENT

JN241320 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 24 Nov 80

[Text] Algiers--'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, arrived here late last night on a short visit to Algeria, during which he will convey a message from President Hafiz al-Asad to his brother President Chadli Bendjedid, which deals with the current Arab situation--particularly the situation pertaining to the Arab summit conference. This is within the framework of consultation and coordination among the states of the steadfastness and confrontation front.

In a statement upon arrival, Khaddam said: Syria proposed and called for postponing the convocation of the Arab summit conference for two reasons: First, the abnormal state of Arab affairs and the conflicts in the Arab homeland--a condition which would negatively affect the summit and which must be dealt with prior to the summit's convocation in order to create the right atmosphere, which would help, in turn, to achieve the aspired-for goals.

Khaddam added: However, it seems that some Arab sides, or rather, some Arab states, find it in their interest to hold this summit regardless of whether it succeeds or fails.

Khaddam affirmed that Syria considers the conference a means for achieving specific goals for the Arab nation. Khaddam pointed out, however, that some sides consider the summit an end in itself, since these sides want the summit to be held, regardless of its results.

The second reason for calling for the postponement of the summit is that Syria believes there are attempts being made to create a certain atmosphere, which would enable some sides to pursue the Camp David policy.

Khaddam added: If we look at the statements which King Husayn made on the West Bank to the magazine AN-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AD-DUWALI a few days ago, we can see that in these statements, King Husayn deviated from the Arab course agreed upon and the role which would give the PLO the right to represent the Arab Palestinian people.

Khaddam stated that through such statements or policy, King Husayn wants to separate the West Bank from the Palestinian issue as a whole and to end the executive and political role played by the PLO--although all the Arab states and most foreign states have recognized the PLO as the Palestinian people's sole legitimate representatives.

The deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs pointed out that the purpose of his visit to Algeria is to hold talks with Algerian officials, particularly President Chadli Bendjedid. This is within the framework of coordination and consultations among the states of the pan-Arab Front for Steadfastness and Confrontation on the current Arab situation, particularly in regard to the Arab summit.

Khaddam added that he will also convey a message to President Chadli Bendjedid from his brother President Hafil-Asad on the same issue.

LIBYA

SECRETARIAT ISSUES STATEMENT ON U.S. 'INTERVENTION'

LD232326 Tripoli JANA in English 1647 GMT 23 Nov 80

[Text] Tripoli, 23 Nov (JANA)--The permanent secretariat of the Arab People's Congress yesterday issued the following statement: American intervention in the Arab region is growing bolder and more dangerous. This intervention is part of the colonialist-Zionist-reactionary scheme aimed at imposing the Stable David accords over the entire region. This intervention has taken the form of a direct U.S. military presence especially in the wake of the Iran-Iraq war.

The military colonialist presence is part and parcel of the capitulatory policy of Arab reaction.

On the other hand, Arab reaction is covering up this military presence and giving it legitimacy through official calls for a U.S. presence.

This explains Arab reaction's political and propagandistic silence on this aggressive American presence. Joint manoeuvres are in fact at this moment taking place on the Jamahiriyah's eastern borders, with the U.S. rapid deployment forces and As-Sadat's forces participating.

It is worth noting that these same Rapid Deployment Forces carried out manoeuvres two years ago in the Nevada desert. Amongst the orders given then to these forces was the destruction of the 'Libyan enemy'. This proves that the current manoeuvres are intended to deliver a military blow against the Libyan Arab people in a bid to impose the Stable David conspiracy.

The colonialist-Zionist-reactionary scheme, enshrined by the Stable David accords, aims at casting doubts over the principled revolutionary stands of the Jamahiriyah. To this end, Arab and reactionary puppets began moving according to plan so as to facilitate a military blow against the Jamahiriyah from the east where current American-Egyptian manoeuvres are taking place.

It is therefore inperative that Arab public opinion should be warned of the danger of American colonialist intervention and the necessity of Arab progressive solidarity with the Jamahiriyah in the battle for honour and dignity.

The implementation of the absolutely capitulatory Stable David accords are aimed at drawing the Arab regimes one after the other behind As-Sadat under the banner of U.S. imperialism and international Zionism.

Thanks to the Palestinian peoples and the Arab nation's struggle, the policy was foiled. Consequently, hostilities increased and several As-Sadat-like moves appeared in suspicious statements by Arab reactionaries about the possibility of reconciliation with (Israel).

Then, the Iraqi-Iranian war broke out to initiate the second part of the Stable David designs by: crushing the Arab nation's alliances, upsetting the priorities in its struggle strategy, imposing divisions on the vital issue of discrimination between friends and foes, imposing an isolation on the Arab nation and depriving it of the support of the Muslim peoples, depriving it from the joint strength of the Iraqi and Iranian peoples, camouflaging the imperialist policy in the region, demoting the Palestinian cause from a place of prominent and urgent concern in the Middle East conflict, escalating (Israel's) land, air and naval aggression, (Israeli) annexation of more land and coordination with all the Arab nation's enemies to crush the Palestinian resistance movement and the Lebanese national movement.

Not surprisingly, under such conditions the voices of reaction integrated in an open attempt to deal a blow to the Libyan Arab people and the revolutionary leadership to prevent the Jamahiriyah from proceeding with its national policy by making Libya the land for all freedom loving Arabs.

Hence, the increased U.S. imperialist intervention in the Arab nation and its occupation of several bases in Egypt, Somalia and Oman, and the hostile manoeuvres by the rapid deployment forces on the eastern border of the Jamahiriyah in collusion with Egyptian forces rules out silence and neutrality. The outcome is either acceptance or rejection of this flagrant U.S. imperialist aggression.

The permanent secretariat of the Arab Peoples' Congress calls on the masses of the Arab nation to shoulder their historic and freedom-fighting attack aimed at crushing the Palestinian revolution, the Lebanese national movement, all the progressive popular forces and the countries of the Steadfastness and Confrontation Front.

The freedom, dignity, and future of the Arab nation, as well as its right to live and thrive, are at stake unless this attack is confronted. Victory is in our hands once oppression, hesitation and irresponsibility are abandoned.

Our country is capable of facing defiance no matter how great, no matter at what price.

The permanent secretariat of the Arab People's Congress

FRENCH SPOKESMAN SAYS RELATIONS NORMAL

LD221312 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 22 Nov 80

[Text] The official spokesman of the French Government had denied reports by some information media about Libyan intervention in Chad. He said: I deny this. There is no truth to it. The French official spokesman went on to add that his country does not express concern about the so-called Libyan intervention in Chad because there is no information of Libyan intervention in Chad or of the areas of this intervention.

The French spokesman described relations between France and the Jamahiriyah as normal. He added that economic and cultural cooperation between the two countries have increased. He added that his country strives to consolidate relations with the Jamahiriyah.

The French spokesman also stressed that his country pays no attention to the words and statements of President Senghor of Senegal about Chad. He said: The mobilization for which Colonel al-Qadhdhafi is urging the Libyan people to make preparations for is to defend their wealth and to face their enemies. The spokesman said: American-Egyptian maneuvers are being held on Libya's border, and this confirms that Libya's posture is one of self-defense.

DIPLOMAT COMMENTS ON CHAD, TUNISIA, SENEGAL

AB231328 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1145 GMT 23 Nov 80

[Excerpt] Kinshasa, 22 Nov (AZAP)--The founding chairman of the MPR and president of the republic, citizen Mobutu Sese Seko, on Saturday received the Libyan delegation to the festivities marking the 15th anniversary of the second republic, followed by the French ambassador to Zaire, Mr Albert Thabault, at his Camp Tshatshi residence.

The Libyan delegation, comprising that country's ambassadors to Guinea and Gambia, Mr al-Hudayri Ahmad and Mr Tayari M. Ayad, delivered a message from the Libyan head of state, Colonel al-Qadhdhafhi, to President Mobutu Sese Seko.

After the audience, Mr al-Hudayri Ahmad said that their delegation would have been larger if it had been possible for they were very happy to participate in the festivities marking the 15th anniversary of the second republic in view of the relations between the leaders and the peoples of the two countries. On the question of Chad, he said his country's attitude conforms to the decision of the OAU, for it is a matter of helping a legal government that is fighting against a rebellion. He stressed that the aid given by his country is in the field of food and medicine, adding that Libya respects Chad's territorial integrity. That is why, to him, the question of Aouzou strip is only a simple border problem that will be settled between the two countries through negotiations.

Mr al-Hudayri denied categorically Tunisia's charges, stating that the foreign mass media are conducting this campaign of lies against his country.

Questioned about President Senghor's charges against Libya, he said his country maintains good relations with the Senegalese people and placed the Senegalese head of state's position within the framework of the campaign orchestrated by imperialism against his country.

SYRIA'S KHADDAM ARRIVES, MAKES STATEMENT

JN232102 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1915 GMT 23 Nov 80

[Text] Tripoli--'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, arrived in Tripoli today on a visit to Libya during which he will deliver a message from President Hafiz al-Asad to Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi.

Algerian Foreign Minister Mohamed Seddik Ben Yahia arrived in Tripoli on the same plane and departed immediately to Algeria.

Khaddam was received at the Tripoli International Airport by Dr 'Ali 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki, Libyan foreign secretary; the charge d'affaires of the Syrian relations office in Tripoli and members of the office; and the Algerian ambassador in Tripoli.

Upon arrival, Khaddam made a statement to journalists. He said: You understand that the Arab nation is suffering an abnormal situation as a result of the state of disputes existing in the Arab arena. These disputes are the normal outcome of the Camp David policy, which has played a major role in creating division in the Arab situation. He added: Our opinion has been that we must confront the dangers facing the Arab nation, particularly the Zionist and imperialist dangers, to eliminate these abnormal conditions and to rectify the Arab situation's course. Khaddam explained: For that, we have called for the postponement of the Arab summit conference for a limited time, during which the Arab situation can be dealt with. But some Arab countries, for reasons of their own, rejected the idea of the postponement. Consequently, there has been a determination to ignore this Arab situation. He added: The stands of the Steadfastness Front have been uniform and identical, whether in their view of what is taking place or in their assessment of the current situation.

Khaddam concluded his statement saying: My visit to Libya comes within the framework of existing relations between Libya and Syria. President Hafiz al-Asad has asked me to convey a message to his brother, the leader of the 1 September revolution, Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, dealing with the Arab stituation, the stand on the Arab summit conference and views on the situation.

MAURITANIA

FORMER LEADER, MINISTER TRIED, SENTENCED IN ABSENTIA

AB211815 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 1430 GMT 21 Nov 80

[Excerpts] Following its traveling sessions [session foraine] held in Rosso from 18 to 20 November, the special criminal court condemned Mr Moktar Ould Daddah in absentia to life-long hard labor. Another person, Mohamed Ba Ould Abdel Kader, was also condemned to death in absentia.

This morning, Lt Col Dia Amadou, member of the CMSN [Military Committee for National Salvation], minister adviser to the president and assistant public prosecutor, made comments on the verdict to radio Mauritania.

[Begin recording] During the traveling sessions held from 18 to 20 November 1980, the special court of justice looked into 11 cases. Among them, there were the cases of Mr Moktar Ould Daddah--who was summoned to court (?2) months ago--and Mr Mohamed Ould Abdel Kader who was summoned to court several months ago. The session came out with many condemnations.

We tried Mohamed Ba Ould Abdel Kader, a former lieutenant colonel, and Mr Moktar Ould Daddah in absentia. Mr Moktar Ould Daddah was sentenced to hard labor while Mohamed Ba Ould Abdel Kader was sentenced to death.

Why did we do all this? After a thorough consideration of the current penal code, we founded our verdict on the appropriate law available to avoid giving national and international opinion the feeling that we have responded to political considerations by resorting to a (?casual) legal act. We believe that the appropriate laws exist already. The Military Committee for National Salvation wanted all the trials to be carried out in a nonpolitical atmosphere. The special court of justice will use the same principles to try all those who commit actions likely to jeopardize the internal and external security of the state.

The indictment in the case of Mr Moktar Ould Daddah includes two charges: the violation of the constitution and the violation of the nation's economic interests. The special court of justice has therefore condemned him to life-long hard labor in conformity with Articles 77, 83, 84, 112 and 171 of the penal code. That is the juridical basis in the case of Mr Moktar Ould Daddah.

With respect to the case of Kader, Mohamed Ba Ould Abdel Kader is a lieutenant colonel. He is charged with many crimes. First, toward the National Armed Forces, he has abandoned his position. He has committed the crime of desertion; the punishment of this crime is provided for in Article 32 of law No 62165 of 19 July 1962 on the organization of military justice, and in Article 18 of law No 62132 on the enrollment in the armed forces. Toward the Mauritanian state he has committed a crime of treason, the punishment of which is provided for in the penal code Article 67 which stipulates that any Mauritanian, any solider or sailor serving under the colors of Mauritania [few words indistinct] who establishes intelligent contacts with a foreign power with a view to launching hostilities against Mauritania, or who supplies the means to such a power, or facilitates the infiltration of the national territory by foreign forces either by disrupting the faithfulness of the land, air and naval forces or by any other means, is guilty of treason and faces the death sentence. He has also plotted against the internal and external security of the state in foudning the so-called front of free army officers which he leads. Therefore, his death setence conforms with the law 72158 of the penal code. [end recording]

MOROCCO

RABAT REPORTS SUCCESSFUL ATTACK ON 'MERCENARIES'

LD241404 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 24 Nov 80

[Text] In accordance with the plan aiming at purging the southern provinces from the remnants of the mercenaries, the Royal Armed Forces continued their operations south of Elkha Oua.

On 23 November 1980, the ground forces and the Royal Air Force surprised a considerable concentration of mercenaries. They attacked these mercenaries and dispersed them.

The enemy suffered great losses of life and equipment. Forty-eight enemy vehicles were destroyed; 42 of which were destroyed by the air force. The number of dead and wounded in the ranks of the mercenaries totalled 80. The Royal Armed Forces seized a jeep and a B-10 gun in addition to a significant quantity of light weapons and ammunition. A member of the Royal Armed Forces was martyred and six were wounded.

TUNISIA

BOURGUIBA RECEIVES ZAIRIAN SPECIAL ENVOY

LD201029 Tunis L'ACTION in French 13 Nov 80 p 1

[Unattributed report: "Zairian President's Special Envoy Conveys a Message From Mobutu to the Head of State"]

[Text] Yesterday morning President Bourguiba received Mr Langema Dulia, Zairian secretary of state for international cooperation and President Mobutu Sese Seko's special envoy, at Carthage Palace in the presence of Foreign Minister Hassan Belkhoja and Zairian Ambassador to Tunis Amisi Tangala.

At the end of the audience the Zairian special envoy stated: "I conveyed a personal message from President Mobutu to President Bourguiba and I was very happy to find him in good health and even happier to see that he follows all African problems with great attention, since this is a good thing for Tunisian-Zairian relations."

WESTERN SAHARA

MINISTRY ANNOUNCES OPERATIONS AGAINST MOROCCANS

LD220958 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 0000 GMT 22 Nov 80

[Text] The Saharan Information Ministry issued a statement Friday saying that the Saharan Popular Liberation Army [SPLA] waged a number of military operations on 6, 15, 16 and 17 November against positions of the royalist forces at Rouh Rguibine, which lies between Abbateh and Tan-Tan.

The statement added that the attacks resulted in heavy losses in equipment and life among the occupation forces. Sixty soldiers were killed and an equal number wounded. Several vehicles were destroyed and so were a number of arms of various types.

COMMUNIQUE RELATES SERIES OF SUCCESSES

LD251020 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 0700 GMT 25 Nov 80

[Summary] A communique released by the SDAR Information Ministry says that the Saharan Liberation Army has launched a series of successful attacks against the Moroccan expansionist troops inside Morocco. Units of the Saharan Army clashed on 17 November 1980 with Moroccan units around Ain Bou Noua and Rouh Rguibine between Tan-Tan and Abbateh. During this battle, which took place from 1700 to 0700 the following day, the Saharan Army liquidated dozens of Moroccan troops--35 soldiers were killed, a similar number were wounded, and a considerable quantity of military hardware was destroyed.

On 20 November, the Rouh Rguibine base was again shelled and subjected to a 2-hour surprise attack: 65 Moroccans were killed, a similar number wounded, and a number of military vehicles were destroyed.

On the same day, a Saharan unit clashed with royalist troops in the Abbateh region: 43 Moroccans were killed, a similar number were wounded and considerable losses in equipment were inflicted on the monarchist forces.

BRIEFS

GUINEAN MINISTER'S LIBYA VISIT--Tripoli, 15 Nov (JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY)--The Guinean minister of defence, member of the Political Bureau of the Democratic Party, member of the Central Committee of the state party and chairman of the Libyan Arab-Guinean friendship committee, General al-Hassan Diani [name and titles as received], arrived in Tripoli yesterday. Hajja Noukamba Sekou Toure, member of the Federal Committee of Conakry (second district) arrived in Tripoli at the head of a women's delegation visiting the Jamahiriyah. [Text] [Tripoli JANA in English 1426 GMT 15 Nov 80 LD]

SOVIET-MOROCCAN TRADE AGREEMENT--The Marketing and Exports Bureau has concluded an important trade agreement with the Soviet Central Purchases Board, the agreement is worth 500 million dirhams and falls within the framework of promotion of trade exchange between the two countries. The conclusion of the agreement reflects the two countries' desire to bolster trade relations between them in line with the common desire expressed by both sides within the framework of the meetings of the Moroccan-Soviet committee for cooperation held recently in Moscow. [Text] [Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 15 Nov 80 LD]

CABINET MINISTERS CRITICIZE EGYPTIAN 'EVASIVENESS'

TA241421 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 24 Nov 80 pp 1, 2

['Uzi Benziman report]

[Text] At yesterday's Cabinet meeting Ministers Yosef Burg and Moshe Nisim proposed a public condemnation of Egypt's evasiveness in conducting the autonomy negotiations, which represents a breach of binding agreements recently achieved between the two countries. Nisim and Burg recalled that about 1 month ago agreement was reached in Washington between the Israeli and Egyptian foreign ministers about the resumption of the autonomy negotiations and conducting them without a break. In their view, Egypt is violating this agreement and using a strategy of delay and evasion with the obvious aim of postponing the actual deliberations until after Reagan assumes office in the White House.

Statements by senior Egyptian figures were also mentioned at the Cabinet session. From these statements it emerged that Egypt is waiting for a change of administration in Israel and is even speaking about Jordan's incorporation in the negotiations, which is not in accordance with the Camp David agreements.

Minister Ari'el Sharon commented that it would be advisable to complete the autonomy negotiations as soon as possible, lest another government should come to power in Israel and damage the settlements in Judaea, Samaria and Gaza. Minister Sharon also said that on his latest visit to the United States he had become aware of the Jewish community's great willingness to support the government's settlement policy.

The ministers' comments followed reports by Prime Minister Menahem Begin and Interior Ministry Director General Hayim Kubersky. Begin reports on his talks with President Carter about the future of the autonomy talks and Kubersky reported on the meetings held in Egypt last week by the delegation of Israeli officials. Begin had learned in Washington that President Carter did not find the time ripe for initiating special steps to bring about any conclusion to the autonomy negotiations as they had been conducted to date.

While they were in Egypt, it became clear to Mr Kubersky and his delegation that the Egyptians were in no hurry to resume the actual negotiations. According to the impression formed by the Israeli delegation, Egypt is distressed by the ratification of the Jerusalem law. It is because of this that Egypt wants to postpone the moment of drawing conclusions for as long as possible. The Egyptians commented that the status of Jerusalem would only be discussed at the last stage of the negotiations, but the Jerusalem law had disrupted their calculations, forced them to deal with it immediately and demand that Israel find a solution to the city's status acceptable to Cairo.

From the Israeli delegation's latest visit to Egypt it also emerged that Cairo is still demanding a gesture from Israel (such as the release of Palestinian prisoners, granting freedom of political organization in Judaea, Samaria and Gaza, the return of the deported mayors and so on) in the framework of what it calls "moves to strengthen mutual trust." Egypt is still showing a willingness to hold a summit with the participation of the U.S. President, the Egyptian president and the Israeli prime minister. It was also learned that the Israeli delegation hinted to their Egyptian interlocutors about Israel's evaluation that the common interests of both countries require that the autonomy negotiations be accelerated and concluded as soon as possible.

It appears that the conclusion of the negotiations will not (as was planned over the last few months) be formulated as an agreed document but as a unilateral conclusion by the U.S. delegation now leaving the negotiations. This U.S. document will be brought to the two governments for study before it is given to Reagan's administration. The U.S. delegation estimates that Egypt and Israel will criticize the conclusion.

WEIZMAN INTERVIEWED ON NO-CONFIDENCE VOTE, FUTURE

TA211359 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 21 Nov 80 pp 1,2 Political Supplement

[Interview granted by MK 'Ezer Weizman to Yesha'yahu Ben-Porat: "Weizman: If Politics Means Buying Three Knesset Members Then I Am Not a Politician"--date and place not given]

[Text] Question: Was your vote against the government meant as an excuse for leaving the Likud?

Answer: This question is clear and legitimate and the answer is simple: believe me, had I wanted to leave the Herut Movement and the Likud I would have done so, without resorting to any special maneuvers so as to have myself expelled. It is true that in these stormy times, when Knesset members are bought 30 minutes before the vote, it becomes difficult to explain to the man in the street that I did what I did because I owed it to the voter, the nation and myself.

Question: However, you realize that there is a problem here; you voted against a government led by your party.

Answer: Nobody can persuade me that a vote of no confidence in the government is more serious than a vote against the peace process which was also an exceptional thing to do. Look, on such a fundamental and vital subject as peace a person like Moshe Arens voted against and still remained in his post as chairman of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee while being required in this capacity to implement the government's policy. This was an absolute distortion and I swallowed it during 2 and 1/2 years in my post as defense minister; Knesset Speaker Yitzhaq Shamir abstained and then became the foreign minister; the current finance minister and formerly industry and commerce minister, Yiga'el Hurvitz, abstained and resigned from the government because of peace and then returned to it as the finance minister in spite of peace. That is to say, they thought the issue was extraordinary and thus allowed themselves to act in an extraordinary way. This is what I did on Wednesday.

Question: However, you are ignoring the fact that then, formally, freedom of vote was given whereas on Wednesday there was no such thing.

Answer: I am not a formalist. If they want to discuss formality with me then they should expel me from the Herut Movement. So, they are right as far as formality is concerned. Formally speaking, in 1967 the IDF generals were not supposed to talk to the government the way they did. Arik Sharon, Mati Peled, Avraham Yofe and myself screamed at [then prime minister] Levi Eshkol. Was that formal? No! In times of emergency we forgot about formality and acted according to what we thought was good for that nation. That is exactly what I did the day before yesterday. If I am formally told that my time with the Herut Movement is up I will understand it and yet be sorry about it. However, as far as I am concerned, the party is a means and not a goal.

Question: Do you mean to say that you would not like either to quit or to be expelled?

Answer: I am not saying what I will or will not do. However, I am ready to say that it will be a mistake if Menahem Begin heads the Likud in the next elections and I will not run with him. In my opinion, the peace which could have turned into a driving and creative force became a negative power because of Begin's leadership.

Question: Has this situation worsened since you left the government?

Answer: The situation has certainly worsened, first and foremost in the economic sphere. In this respect, peace was portrayed as a disastrous peace and all our troubles were pinned onto it. Two respectable persons, the finance minister and the chairman of the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Security Committee, have stated that all our troubles stem from this peace. So what is the man in the street supposed to think?

Question: Will it be easier for you to set up an independent list if you are expelled?

Answer: Up to this week's vote the line I had set myself was that I did not want to leave the Herut Movement and that I would consider not running for the next elections. I was thinking about a political interval of 4 years, bearing in mind the risk that I might disappear from political life.

I saw Ari'el Sharon stating on television: I am not quitting--and he was referring to me. He only forgot to mention that he left the IDF's southern command 5 months before the Yom Kippur war. He did not know a war would break out. None of us knew that. However, if he claims that one should not quit as long as it is possible to do things then why did he not remain in the army? Perhaps if he had been commander of the southern command during the war the situation at the outset would have been better. Therefore, when you quit something you certainly assume a great risk. However, one should be reconciled with oneself. I cannot function if I am not reconciled with myself to a high degree. Thus, up to the vote this week I thought the scale tipped more in favor of no longer participating in political life. I certainly had no desire to set up my own list. However, were I to find myself sitting alone, not within a political framework, this could probably tip the scales in some other direction; that is, toward the establishment of a new framework.

Question: Do you not regret your quitting government and action?

Answer: No, I certainly do not regret it. I am sorry that the situation had reached such a point where I was forced to resign.

Question: Do you feel that the public is forgetting you?

Answer: No, I do not. In any case, not by what I feel when I drive on the Haifa-Tel Aviv highway or stop at the traffic lights. There are those who have an angry face and there are those who smile. However, it usually seems to me that they do not ignore me. Still, I must say another thing: I am very sorry that the defense establishment is currently in a certain vacuum.

Question: Has the state's security been affected as a consequence of the fact that Begin also serves as the defense minister?

Answer: I think that, objectively speaking, security has been affected since the army is currently not controlled by civilians--as it should have been. I am saying this notwithstanding my appreciation for the chief of staff and the general staff.

Question: Are there any indications that the defense establishment is being divested of its Weizman-like character? For instance, the cancellation of your decision to set up the field forces command.

Answer: The truth is that regarding the field forces command opinions were split; not everybody agreed to it. However, my decision was correct. Now, many other things, such as the Lavi aircraft issue, are not being implemented as they should.

Question: Only because of technical reasons?

Answer: No. I think that the Lavi project has not been carried out because there are still arguments on the conception of the plane. Look, nevertheless a new situation has emerged there. It is only natural for some people to try and seize the opportunity to introduce ideas that were not accepted previously, during my tenure. Had there been a normal transition between myself and another minister a larger extent of continuity would have been possible. Notwithstanding the arguments between Shim'on Peres and myself, there was a higher degree of continuity after he transferred the ministry to me than there is now within the defense establishment.

Question: 'Ezer, all your friends, including myself, sometimes feel hurt when you do things you should not do....

Answer: Such as?

Question: Such as eating ice cream with Carter....

Answer: First of all I did not eat ice cream with Carter; he had lunch. The journalists asked me what Carter had eaten and I said that at the end of the meal Carter had ice cream and I drank Coca Cola; I do not like ice cream. This is part of what is currently happening in America. The intention is to show the people that their leaders are monkeys. What happened during the U.S. election? Everybody said that the choice was between two small-caliber candidates.

Why did I do it? Politically speaking and as far as security is concerned--and the same could have applied to the socioeconomic sphere--the peace process has been the most important development we have experienced since the Balfour declaration. In the State of Israel, including governmental circles, there is regret about it today. People are looking for arguments and excuses to explain why peace is not right. Weizman and Dayan are the two first persons whom they hold responsible for it. What could be worse than a situation where you ask a U.S. Jew: Why do you not vote for Carter? And he replies: Because of his policy in the Middle East. Which of his policies in the Middle East? His policy toward Israel. What do you mean toward Israel? And the U.S. Jew replies: He imposed peace on you. I heard this from dozens of people in the United States, including from our mutual friend Paul Kedar. This man, the U.S. President, comes to Israel and shuttles between the King David Hotel in Jerusalem and Cairo in order to achieve peace for us. For years we declared that we did not want any outside interference; we did not want either British or Soviet imperialism or U.S. influence but rather direct contacts with the Arabs, and then we would reach an agreement with them. So, one of the most serious leaders in the Arab world, As-Sadat, came to Israel and soon afterward Carter was introduced into the picture. Who invented the autonomy plan? Was it Carter? As-Sadat? Or Begin? Who hurried with the autonomy plan and came back saying that he had not met such an intellect since Jabotinsky's days? Did I say that? Or was it Mr Begin who said it? Hold on, wait a second; a man like Carter, who for 4 years did not curtail aid or any other item--and when the time comes to hold negotiations on peace meetings are not conducted in Al-'Arish or Beersheba, in Jerusalem or Cairo but in Washington; the meeting is held at Camp David. [sentence as published] So who ran to Carter? Did I run to him? Does one incite U.S. Jewry against Carter for his faulty policy in the Middle East after one has sat with him on the White House lawn?

Question: But you are playing in a political football field and you have bet your entire stake on it....

Answer: All Knesset members sit and all they care about is whether they will or will not have a seat. They are gambling all the time. I gambled out of my commitment to the cause of peace and because I owned it to a friend. I did not plan to fly with him but, other than that, I planned everything. I did not even once mention inflation in the United States. I only said that Carter's policy was good for the State of Israel. I knew that if I visited the United States Carter would invite me.

I thought he would invite me to Washington or Camp David. When he told me "I do not have time, join me aboard my plane;I would like to talk to you in the plane"--what was I supposed to reply to him: "No, I have an appointment with Wizo [Jewish Zionist organization] in Baltimore?"

Question: But that was a trick, was it not?

Answer: You know what? It was his right! Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir said that 'Ezer broke the rule of no direct Israeli intervention in the United States. Whatever is said or done in this respect is fouled with tons of hypocrisy. For instance, complaints are now being made against Israel's ambassador to the United States, Efrayim 'Evron, because he did not contact Reagan.

Question: Are you sorry that Reagan was elected?

Answer: No. Knowing the Americans I believe that if I ever were to resume contacts with the U.S. administration Reagan would doubly appreciate what I did, that I backed a friend. I stood behind a man who, in my opinion, made a contribution to the State of Israel. I supported him out of Israeli rather than American considerations. Reagan will appreciate it more than all sorts of parasites who are now running around him and waiting for him to invite them. In my definition of parasite I do not include Prime Minister Begin.

Question: Do you believe you will ever hold political contacts in the United States?

Answer: I could have made greater efforts to return to political life. I do not wake up in the morning, roll up my sleeves and say: Get out of my way, I am going to get myself reelected. No, I have deep doubts. I will tell you something else. My price is very high. Had I been less expensive I would still be the defense minister.

Question: The majority does not think like you. The majority, or at least journalists, believe that you made a mistake.

Answer: With all due respect, you only have to report, leave it to us to do all the calculations. "The majority of the journalists" you can keep to your self. You can write this in these very words. You would be surprised. There are also those who do not write in the newpapers. All in all, you are merely meteorologists. Why is that? Well, you wake up in the morning and see where the wind is blowing from. You seem to forget that the wind changes direction.

Question: Thank you for the compliment. What are your plans for the near future?

Answer: I have not changed my plans. Joylessly but fully reconciled with myself I left the Defense Ministry. I am now sitting in a private office with a friend of mine and observing business life. As far as business is concerned I am more limited today than I was at one time. I do not need people saying that I am dealing with this or that. My economic situation allows me to do all sorts of things. This week I will finish writing a book which will be published in English and Hebrew. Perhaps people will want to expel me from the Herut Movement after this book has been published. We will also wait and see what happens at the Labor Party convention. Then, in April, my book will be published. [paragraph continues]

In May, about 1 year after my resignation from the government, we will know whether the elections will be held earlier. I think that had I been today in an influential position in the Likud I would advance the elections. I also stated this on television last year. I said then that we should reassess the situation. After all, we were not elected to return the entire Sinai. We were not elected to do the same regarding Judaea and Samaria and we were certainly not elected to bring an inflation of 120 or 130 percent. I said: Let us go to the people and see what happens. However, this was too strong. This was not a political move. If politics means to hold onto one's chair--then I am not a politician! If politics means buying three Knesset members before a vote--then I will never be a politician!

Question: Is there any truth to the reports that Rabin and you will run together in the next elections if Rabin is not elected as the Labor Party's candidate to the office of prime minister?

Answer: Look, I have very good relations with Yitzhaq Rabin. Indeed, we had some strong disputes that only someone who has gone through the 6-day war--particularly the stages preceding it--can understand. Thirteen years have passed since then and I hope that the atmosphere between us has cleared. We do not meet socially now but we do see each other. I very much enjoy sitting with him occasionally and having a cup of coffee at the Knesset. As you see, I am not hiding this. It appears to me that I am friendly with the remaining 118 Knesset members; I am the 119th Knesset member. There is one Knesset member missing--Menahem Begin. I can only regret this. Had a division commander written a letter to me such as the one I wrote him [upon resignation from the government] I would have summoned him for a talk.

POLL SHOWS PUBLIC BELIEVES LABOR PARTY SUITED TO RULE

TA211337 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 21 Nov 80 p 3

[Text] The majority of the Israeli public believes that the Labor Party is today suited to return to power in Israel and it would like to see Yitzhaq Rabin heading the government. These are the conclusions of a nationwide public opinion poll conducted by the Pori Institute at the request of HA'ARETZ.

The question posed was: "Do you think the Labor Party is or is not suited to return to power in Israel?" Some 41 percent replied in the affirmative while 36.8 percent replied negatively. Another 7 percent said the Labor Party "may be" suited to return to power. However, this depended on whether it put an end to internal disputes, whether the party leaders drew their lesson from past mistakes and on who headed the party.

From the replies to another question included in the poll it was concluded that the majority would like Yitzhaq Rabin to head the government.

Another question posed was: "Were you given the choice, would you prefer Menahem Begin, Shim'on Peres or Yitzhaq Rabin as prime minister?" Some 37.6 percent favored Yitzhaq Rabin, 24.8 percent were for Menahem Begin and 17.5 percent preferred Shim'on Peres.

Some 13.2 percent said they had no predilection for any of these men and the remaining 6.9 percent said they "did not know" who was best suited among the three men to be the prime minister.

The poll comprised a representative sample of 1,200 men and women who were interviewed individually throughout the country.

ETHIOPIA

REPORTAGE ON SUDANESE PRESIDENT'S 18-23 NOV VISIT

Joint Communique

LD241940 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1717 GMT 23 Nov 80 EA

[Joint communique on visit of Sudanese Party Government delegation led by Sudanese President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri to Ethiopia issued in Addis Ababa on 23 November]

[Excerpts] His Excellency President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri, president of the Democratic Republic of the Sudan and of the SSU and commander in chief of the country's armed forces, paid an official, friendly visit to socialist Ethiopia from 18-23 November 1980 at the invitation of Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam, chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council [PMAC] and of the Commission for Organizing the Party of the Workers of Ethiopia [COPWE] and commander in chief of the Revolutionary Army.

On arrival in Addis Ababa and during their stay in Ethiopia, His Excellency President Numayri and the high-level Sudanese delegation accompanying him were accorded a warm welcome, in accordance with the longstanding cultural, friendly ties between Ethiopia and the Sudan.

The two leaders held broad discussions on continental and major international issues, based on a spirit of mutual interest. The talks, which were held in the presence of the high-level officials of the two countries, were held in an atmosphere of complete friendship and full understanding, based on the long-standing, satisfactory relations between the two sisterly countries.

Attending the talks on the Sudanese side were: their excellencies Maj Gen 'Umar Muhammad at-Tayyib, member of the SSU Political Bureau and director of state security; Nafisah Ahmad al-Amin, member of the SSU Political Bureau and secretary of the women's committee; Muhammad al-Hasan Awad al-Karim, governor of Blue Nile Province with the rank of minister; Abdurahman Salman, governor of Red Sea Province with the rank of minister; Muhammad Mahjub Sulayman, presidential press adviser with the rank of minister; Muhammad Mirghandi Mubarak, deputy foreign minister; Ahmad Salim Ahmad, deputy minister of cooperation, commerce and supply; Dr Joseph Aduho, minister of rural cooperative development; 'Uthman Azizi, governor of Kassala Province; Joshua Abewal, governor of Upper Nile Province; 'Abd al-Wahhab al-Bakri, chairman of the Defense and Security Committee; Mirghani Sulayman Khalil, ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary of the Democratic Republic of the Sudan to Ethiopia; 'Uthman as-Sayyid of the President's Office; 'Uthman Samhuni, head of the African Department in the Foreign Ministry; and Mustafa Ali Arbab, director of the Political Department in the President's Office.

Attending the talks on the Ethiopia side were: Comrades Fikre-Selassie Wodgeress; PMAC secretary general and member of the COPWE Executive Committee; Brig-Gen Tesfaye Gebre Kidan, PMAC Standing Committee member, defense minister and COPWE Executive Committee member; Berhanu Baye, PMAC Standing Committee member and COPWE Executive Committee member; Yusuf Ahmed, minister of communications and transport and COPWE Central Committee member; Dr Feleke Gedle-Giorgis, minister of foreign affairs and COPWE Central Committee member; Taye Tilahun, minister of interior; Girma Yilma, minister of information and national guidance and COPWE Central Committee member; Tesfaye Shewayeh, minister of culture and sports affairs and COPWE Central Committee member; Mengistu Gemechu, special adviser to the comrade chairman and COPWE Central Committee member; Tibebu Bekele, permanent secretary of the Foreign Ministry; Moges Habte Mariam, permanent secretary of the Ministry of Public and National Security; Fikru Wolde Tensaye, administrator general of Eritrea Region; Comrade Melaku Tefera, COPWE Central Committee member and COPWE representative for Gondar; Yilma Tadesse, Ethiopian ambassador to Sudan; and Amare Tekle, head of the Middle Eastern and African Affairs Department in the Foreign Ministry.

Having considered the good relations between the Democratic Republic of Sudan and socialist Ethiopia, the two leaders expressed their satisfaction at the current strengthening of bilateral relations on the basis of the understanding arrived at between the two leaders during Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam's visit to Sudan in May 1980.

The two leaders noted with satisfaction the growing implementation of cooperation between Ethiopia and Sudan in the fields of economy, trade, transport and communications, culture, defense, security and so on. They expressed the belief that His Excellency President Numayri's visit to socialist Ethiopia would further serve to enhance the revitalization and strengthening of relations between the two neighboring countries. The two leaders accordingly signed documents defining the basic principles of bilateral friendship and relations and cooperation between socialist Ethiopia and the Democratic Republic of Sudan.

The Sudanese side expressed support for and solidarity with the brotherly Ethiopian people, who are fighting with determination to construct a society in which peace, justice, equality, democracy, and socialism will prevail and for their revolution under the farsighted and wise leadership of Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam.

The Sudanese side expressed their admiration for the first COPWE congress, describing it as a great step toward strengthening the country's political, social and economic transformations.

Those attending the talks on the Ethiopian side expressed full support for the acceleration of development in all fields [in Sudan] and admiration for Sudan's victories in the economic, political and cultural fields under the leadership of His Excellency President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri and the SSU.

Having considered the situation in Africa, socialist Ethiopia and the Democratic Republic of the Sudan reaffirmed their willingness to make every possible contribution toward the elimination of expansionism, imperialism, colonialism, neocolonialism, racism and apartheid.

Socialist Ethiopia and the Democratic Republic of the Sudan agreed to create an atmosphere of common understanding and cooperation in the horn of Africa in which respect for territorial integrity, noninterference in internal affairs and nonviolation of borders would prevail among the countries of the region.

The Democratic Republic of the Sudan and socialist Ethiopia emphatically reaffirmed the importance of making the Red Sea and the Indian Ocean region a zone of peace based on the strict observation of the rights and interests of the countries of the region.

The Democratic Republic of the Sudan and socialist Ethiopia reaffirmed their full support for the liberation movements in Southern Africa which are waging armed struggles for national liberation. The two sides accordingly demanded that Namibia should achieve independence under the leadership of SWAPO, the sole representative of the Namibian people, in accordance with the resolutions passed by the United Nations and the OAU, that an end be put to the illegal occupation of Namibia and that the troops of racist South Africa withdraw from the territory of Namibia.

The two sides appealed to all countries to strictly observe the UN embargo on South Africa and reaffirmed their solidarity with the people of South Africa, who are fighting to overthrow the abhorrent and fascistic system of apartheid. The two sides condemned the resumption of cooperation between some Western powers and South Africa especially in the field of nuclear armaments, which is a great threat to the security of sovereign African countries and to the peace of the continent and the world.

The two sides expressed the conviction that the process of easing international tensions should embrace the whole world, including the continent of Africa.

They declared their determination to clear Africa of nuclear armaments and reaffirmed support for the idea of creating nuclear-free zones in various parts of the world.

Socialist Ethiopia and the Democratic Republic of the Sudan noted with satisfaction the part being played by the OAU and its contribution toward the struggle of the African peoples against imperialism, colonialism, neocolonialism, racism and apartheid. They also expressed their admiration for the OAU's efforts to strengthen cooperation among the African countries.

The two sides reaffirmed that a lasting peace could prevail in the Middle East only if Israeli troops withdraw from all the Arab territories they have occupied since 1967, including Jerusalem, and when the Palestinian Arabs, led by their legal representative, the PLO, are able to exercise their sovereign right to decide their own destiny, including their right to form their own independent state.

The Democratic Republic of the Sudan and socialist Ethiopia expressed deep concern over the armed conflict between Iraq and Iran, which is contrary to the wishes of the Iraqi and Iranian peoples and to the interests of peace and security in the continent and the world. The two sides demanded that the conflict be solved immediately in a peaceful manner. In this respect, the two sides expressed support for the efforts being made by the United Nations and the nonaligned states to bring the conflict to an end immediately in accordance with the principles of the United Nations and the nonaligned movement.

The two sides expressed satisfaction at the outcome of His Excellency President Numayri's official and friendly visit to socialist Ethiopia, stressing that the talks held constituted a renewed contribution towards bilateral friendship and cooperation.

Comrade Dr Feleke Gedle-Giorgis, foreign minister of socialist Ethiopia and COPWE Central Committee member, and His Excellency Muhammad Mirghani Mubarak, deputy foreign minister of the Democratic Republic of the Sudan, signed an application to the EEC for aid toward the joint continental transport and telecommunications projects being implemented by the two countries under the budget allocated to them under the Lome-two convention.

Comrade Wole Chekol, minister of external trade of socialist Ethiopia, and His Excellency Ahmad Salim Ahmad, minister of state for cooperation, commerce and supply of the Democratic Republic of the Sudan, signed a trade protocol for 1981.

Having recalled the discussions held with the Kenyan Government on holding a meeting of the joint ministerial committees of Ethiopia, Sudan and Kenya, the two sides welcomed the decision to hold the committee meeting to bring the three countries together as soon as possible. The two sides also decided to hold a meeting of the Ethiopian-Sudanese joint ministerial consultative committee in Addis Ababa at the end of April 1981.

His Excellency President Numayri expressed heartfelt gratitude to Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam and the people and government of socialist Ethiopia for the brotherly welcome and hospitality accorded him and the high-level delegation of the Democratic Republic of the Sudan during their stay in Ethiopia.

Declaration of Principles

LD231900 Khartoum SUNA in English 1740 GMT 23 Nov 80

[Text] Khartoum, 23 Nov (SUNA)--Sudan and Ethiopia declare that relations between countries be based on a keen adherence to principles of sovereignty, territorial integrity, non-interference in others home affairs and se tlement of disputes by peaceful means, said a declaration of basic principles of friendly relations and co-operation signed by the two countries in Addis Ababa today. The declaration said the two sides expressed commitment to prevent any sabotage act against each other particularly the raids across the borders. In this respect the two countries would co-operate to maintain peace and security along the joint border and adhere to international, regional and bilateral agreements of refugee's affairs.

The declaration which was signed by President Numayri and Chairman Mengistu during the former's visit to Ethiopia said the two countries are willing to promote co-operation in economic, social, cultural technical and scientific fields between African states and to maintain territorial integrity and support world security and peace.

The two countries as members of the non-aligned group objects establishment of foreign military bases in the region, said the declaration.

The two sides in commitment to the objectives and resolutions of the Organization of African Unity, the United Nations and the non-aligned group, are determined to promote friendly relations for consolidation of mutual understanding and friendship between the two countries.

The two sides are determined to continue struggle for the elimination of imperialism, colonialism, neo-colonialism and racial discrimination and to co-operate with other peace-loving nations to support the struggle of other people who are still suffering colonialism and racial suppression. The declaration added that the two sides agreed to hold regular meetings to discuss matters of mutual concern and to enhance trade exchange.

Mengistu Remarks

LD242006 Addis Ababa in Amharic to Neighboring Countries 1600 GMT 24 Nov 80 EA

[Text] Comrade Chairman Mengistu has described the good relations linking the Democratic Republic of the Sudan, the Republic of Kenya and socialist Ethiopia as an embryo or example and as constituting a first step for the other countries of the region. Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam, chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council and of the Commission for Organizing the Party of the Workers of Ethiopia and commander in chief of the revolutionary army, said this in reply to questions put to him by journalists of the Democratic Republic of the Sudan who had accompanied His Excellency President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri, president of the Democratic Republic of the Sudan and of the SSU and commander in chief of the country's armed forces, on his visit. Comrade Chairman Mengistu noted in his statement on the strengthening of relations among the three neighboring countries that the application of tripartite relations at ministerial level was in response to the strong desire of the countries concerned. He expressed the hope that this desire on the part of their peoples would soon be brought to realization.

Describing the position adopted and the part played in the horn of Africa by the three countries as not insignificant, Comrade Chairman Mengistu said the good relations linking them resembled an embryo or example and constituted a first step for the other countries of the region. Comrade Chairman Mengistu said that the three countries could solve their internal problems, the problems imposed on them by external forces hostile to their cooperation and development, and the problems they face as developing countries, but emphasized that the key lies in the definition of the problems in the first place.

CAPE VERDE

COMMUNIQUE CRITICIZES GUINEA-BISSAU COUP

AB242051 Paris AFP in French 1449 GMT 24 Nov 80

[Text] Praia, 24 Nov (AFP)--Cape Verde explained on Monday that the replacement of the national organs of the Guinea-Bissau administration by a revolutionary council renders this country a stranger politically, ideologically and organically to the PAIGC [African Independence Party of Guinea-Bissau and Cape Verde]

This position was taken by the Cape Verdian National Council (CNCV) of the PAIGC--the ruling party in Praia and at the same time the one in power in Guinea-Bissau before the coup d'etat--which met on Monday to examine the situation created by the coup d'etat in Bissau.

In its communique, the CNCV categorically rejects and describes as fallacious and demagogical all attempts to blame the situation in Guinea-Bissau before the November 14 coup d'etat on the community and leaders of the Cape Verde in Guinea. It emphasizes that resorting to military force in order to solve the party's internal problems is contrary to the principles and methods of the PAIGC and to the ideas of its founder, Amilcar Cabral.

The CNCV also emphasizes that the supranational administrative organs of the party are completely blocked up because of the coup d'etat, which it says has paralized the activities of the party in Guinea by dealing a blow to its leading role in the Guinean society and by seriously disturbing the implementation of the principles of unity (between Guinea-Bissau and Cape Verde.)

The CNCV, the communique continues, expresses the desire of the Cape Verdian people to maintain and develop fraternal bonds of cooperation with the people of Guinea when appropriate conditions shall have been created.

On the other hand, the council requests its permanent committee to join Mr Aristides Pereira, secretary general of the PAIGC and president of the Republic of Cape Verde, in order to promote all possible means of safe-guarding the physical integrity and ensuring the immediate release of fighters for the liberty of the Guinean and Cape Verdian people (leaders and militants who were arrested in Bissau).

Finally, the CNCV directed its permanent committee to summon a national conference.

GUINEA-BISSAU

CABRAL ACCUSED OF DIRECTING MASS EXECUTIONS

AB240755 Paris AFP in English 0652 GMT 25 Nov 80

[Text] Bissau, 24 Nov (AFP)--A leading figure in the revolutionary council that seized power here November 14 today accused ousted President Luis Cabral of having directed the execution of at least 500 opponents of his regime.

Joseph Turpin told a group of diplomats and journalists at a mass grave at Cumere, near here, that even the colonialists had not committed such crimes. We did not have 500 people executed during the war (for independence). Those captured were tried. Here there was no form of judgment.

The visit today to the grave at Cumere and another at Mansaba in the north was arranged by the revolutionary council. Officials said that the Cumere grave had contained 80 bodies and that 30 had been buried at the Mansaba site.

Reporters were taken Friday to three mass graves in the Nhacra region, 60 kms (37 miles) from here. The figure of 500 slain was given by the council's chairman, former Premier Joao Bernardo Vieira.

Mr Turpin, a former fisheries minister under Mr Cabral, said Friday that Aristides Pereira, president of the sister Republic of the Cape Verde Islands, could not have been unaware of what had happened in Guinea-Bissau. Mr Pereira is secretary-general of the African Party for the Independence of Guinea-Bissau and Cape Verde Islands (PAIGC), which is common to both countries. Guinea-Bissau and Cape Verde had long-term plans to merge politically.

In his comments today, Mr Turpin said that President Pereira's government had sent a telegram to the council in Bissau charging that all PAIGC leaders knew about the shootings. Mr Turpin denied the statement. Neither the (party's) Central Committee, nor the Political Bureau, not even justice officials, were informed, he said.

Gen Vieira was asked during a press conference today if the present members of the revolutionary council, who had all held high offices in Mr Cabral's government, had not known of the killings.

Gen Vieira replied that Mr Cabral had kept a tight grip on foreign affairs, security and the military. Because of that factor, he explained, it had been possible for Mr Cabral to keep even his closest collaborators in the dark.

Asked if President Pereira knew of the murders, Gen Vieira was more conscious in his response than Mr Turpin had been Friday in his comments. Gen Vieira said only that he was not certain.

Mr Turpin's remark today that Mr Cabral directed the executions appeared to suggest that the new regime was preparing to charge the outsted president with the murders. Gen Vieira said today that an inquiry was under way. Mr Cabral, who was apparently lightly wounded in the coup, is a prisoner of the revolutionary council.

UPPER VOLTA

MILITARY COMMITTEE DISSOLVES GOVERNMENT, CONSTITUTION

Committee Proclamation

AB251029 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 0730 GMT 25 Nov 80

[Proclamation by the Upper Voltan Military Committee of Redress for National Progress]

[Text] People of Upper Volta, we the members of the Military Committee of Redress for National Progress, considering the nation's political and economic situation which is characterized by the degradation of the social atmosphere in all sectors of the nation's life, considering our urban and rural populations who are hungry and thirsty because of the drought calamity and who are suffering from the negative effects of the (?shortage) of manufactured goods [words indistinct] and which greatly endangers the nation's credibility, considering the great threat hanging over individual and collective liberties and considering the fact that no appropriate solutions have been found despite the meetings of numerous social and economic commissions [words indistinct], ordain:

1. The Constitution of 13 December 1977 is suspended.
2. The National Assembly is dissolved. Structures of social progress for the establishment of a veritable democracy with the participation of all the active elements of the nation will be set up.
3. The government is dismissed. A government of national redress and progress will be set up.
4. Pending the setting up of this government, the Military Committee of Redress for National Progress will assume all executive and legislative responsibilities and will make laws by issuing ordinances and decrees.
5. Individual and collective liberties--excluding political freedoms--are guaranteed.
6. All international agreements will be respected.

People of Upper Volta, the situation is serious. By our calm, serenity and confidence in [words indistinct]. Hard-working populations, workers in our urban and rural areas, the Military Committee of Redress for National Progress invites you to work in dignity and selflessness so that Upper Volta may live long.

Committee Ordinance

AB250944 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 0730 GMT 25 Nov 80

[Ordinance issued by the Upper Voltan Military Committee of Redress for National Progress]

[Text] Considering the proclamation of 25 November 1980, we, the members of the Military Committee of Redress for National Progress, ordain:

Article 1. The Constitution of 13 December 1977 is suspended.
Article 2. The National Assembly is dissolved. Structures of redress for social progress and the establishment of a veritable democracy with the participation of all the active elements of the nation will be set up.
Article 3. The government is dismissed. A government of redress for progress will be set up.
Article 4. A military committee of redress for national progress is created.
Article 5. Pending the establishment of the government, the Military Committee of Redress for National Progress will make laws by issuing ordinances and decrees and will assume all executive and legislative responsibilities.
Article 6. The political parties are suspended and all political activities are prohibited.
Article 7. Individual and collective liberties are guaranteed. The law guarantees press freedom, trade union freedom, traditional and religious freedoms provided public order and security are strictly respected.
Article 8. All international agreements will be respected. No interference in the internal and external affairs of the state will be tolerated. In this regard, the entire nation is mobilized for the cause of redress for national progress.
Article 9. This ordinance will be executed as a law of the state.

Ouster of Lamizana

NC251159 Paris AFP in English 1156 GMT 25 Nov 80

[Excerpts] Abidjan, Ivory Coast, 25 Nov (AFP)--A military committee for national progress ousted General Sangoule Lamizana, the president of the West African Republic of Upper Volta, early today, diplomatic sources said here.

Colonel Saye Zerbo, commander of the inter-forces regiment in the Voltan capital Ougadougou, heads the military committee, the source added. Colonel Zerbo was also head of the Study Bureau of the Voltan Armed Forces' High Command, the source said.

Ougadougou Airport had been closed to international traffic, the source said.

Voltan radio broadcasts monitored here were meanwhile broadcasting military marching tunes and songs.

National Curfew

AB251218 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 1205 GMT 25 Nov 80

[Communique]

[Text] A curfew is imposed throughout the national territory from 1900 to 0600 until further notice. All public demonstrations are absolutely forbidden.

ANGOLA

MORE COUNTERREVOLUTIONARIES TO BE TRIED

AB211235 Paris AFP in English 1223 GMT 21 Nov 80

[Excerpts] Luanda, 21 Nov (AFP)--Several counterrevolutionaries accused of bombings and sabotage will be tried beginning Monday in Angola's southern provinces of Bie and Benguela, the newspaper JORNAL DE ANGOLA reported here today.

The paper did not say how many defendants there were, or give their political affiliations. It said a special tribunal, the people's revolutionary court, would travel from Luanda to the two provinces to try the cases.

In August, 25 guerrillas of UNITA, the Union for the Total Independence of Angola, were executed in Luanda and Huambo, Central Angola, after they were found guility on charges including bombing, sabotage, counterrevolutionary activities and crimes against the people.

In February, 130 people were arrested as a result of several months of Angolan secret service investigation of Clandestine UNITA networks. The 25 later executed were among the 130.

NAMIBIA

SWAPO RESTATES TERMS FOR TALKS WITH SOUTH AFRICA

LD232130 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1700 GMT 23 Nov 80 EA

[Text] Luanda--In a communique issued in Luanda, the SWAPO Executive Committee has reaffirmed its willingness to hold talks with the South African leaders, provided that such talks promote the implementation of the UN plan for Namibia's independence. SWAPO stated that it is prepared to hold talks with the South African leaders if the talks serve to facilitate the process of Namibia's decolonization through free elections supervised by the United Nations. SWAPO added that it will neither be party to nor participate in any conference attended on an equal footing by South African-created institutions and the unrepresentative elements of the so-called Turnhalle Alliance. SWAPO said that these reactionary elements, which represent only South African colonial and imperialist interests, have been condemned and rejected by the Namibian people, the OAU, the nonaligned and countries and by UN resolutions.

SOUTH AFRICA

FIVE COUNTRIES IN REGION FAVOR S-W AFRICA TALKS

LD231626 Johannesburg International Service in English 1500 GMT 23 Nov 80

[Text] Diplomatic sources in Dar es Salaam say five of the six black African states which have involved themselves in the South-West African independence issue have agreed to the holidng of an all-party conference before the implementation of the United Nations settlement plan for the territory. The sources say the states agreed to this during talks with the United Nations commissioner for South-West Africa, Mr Ahtisaari. The only state which has reservations about the plan is Tanzania, but those in agreement are Angola, Botswana, Zambia, Mozambique and Zimbabwe.

COMMENTARY CRITICIZES UK SUPPORT FOR SWAPO STATEMENT

LD241844 Johannesburg International Service in English 1500 GMT 24 Nov 80

[Station commentary]

[Text] The effect of the stance now being adopted by the British Government is to strengthen SWAPO's position as against the internal parties in South-West Africa, as it did the Patriotic Front before Zimbabwe's independence.

The Foreign Office in London announced at the weekend that it welcomed SWAPO's latest statement. This was that it was ready to hold direct talks with the South African Government but not with the territory's elected representatives. Britain's support to such an approach is helpful neither in the short nor the longer term. The state has now been reached where the United Nations Secretariat is proposing miltiparty talks, and Pretoria is agreeable to them provided it is not directly involved and that the internal parties and SWAPO are given equal status and treatment to chart the runup to independence.

Throughout the negotiation, this has been Pretoria's case: that the people of South-West Africa should without interference decide among themselves their destiny, and it is backed by logic and history.

Deciding among themselves is what self-determination means, and the responsibility which South Africa accepted under the original mandate was to act as trustee until South-West Africa was able to stand on its own feet. That it is now doing. The internal elected representatives today exercise effectively both legislative and executive authority, and they are (?entitled) to at least equal treatment with SWAPO, which has no mandate from the people.

In the longer term, Zimbabwe demonstrates the danger of undercutting the authority of internal parties. There, the elected prime minister, Bishop Able Muzorewa, having been persuaded by London to stand down, the external leader Robert Mugabe came to power in the election which followed. It was hailed as a diplomatic triumph for understanding and progress at home and for holding Zimbabwe in the Western orbit. But months after the election, there is a degree of confusion and tension in Zimbabwe which would be intolerable in the circumstances of South-West Africa's more complex population. And last week, the Soviet Union was busy repairing its relations with the Salisbury government. The warning could not be clearer. In South-West Africa also, the relegation of the internal parties would give SWAPO with its Soviet backing a psychological advantage at the polls which cannot be allowed. SWAPO means to have them relegated, and Britain's support for its statement toward that end is damaging to the proposed multiparty talks, to self-determination and stable future for South-West Africa, and to Western interests in the subcontinent.

SUPREME COURT RULES ON SILVERTON DEFENDANTS

LD211150 Johannesburg International Service in English 1100 GMT 21 Nov 80

[Text] In the South African Supreme Court in Pretoria, all nine accused in the Silverton siege trial have been found not guility on a second charge of treason, 2 charges of murder and 19 charges of attempted murder. Yesterday, Mr Justice J. de Villiers and two assessors found all nine of them guilty on the first charge of treason. In majority verdict this morning, the court found the men innocent of the second charge because the state could not show that there had been a conspiracy and a common purpose among them, the other members of the ANC or the three terrorists who were shot dead in the Silverton bank building.